FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 NOVEMBER 1985

Egypt

Only one Arab state could be involved in the hijacking of the Egyptian plane, President Husni Mubarak declared in remarks reported by MENA, adding that he is "not at liberty to name it now, but it is a state whose only concern is terrorism." Asked whether Egypt will take military action if Libya's involvement is proven, Mubarak stressed that if Egypt resorts to war, its goal will be to achieve peace. The decision to go to war would cause many deaths, he pointed out, asserting that "one does not punish an entire people just to punish a single man." Mubarak said he was "extremely sorry" to hear that Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu Nidal, had expressed support for the hijacking, and he disclosed that one of the leaders of the Palestinian group responsible for the hijacking is staying at the "Grand Hotel" in Libya. As for the operation by Egyptian troops, the president said the commandos fired only seven bullets and he attributed the loss of innocent lives to the hijackers' use of phosporous bombs. He thanked France, the United States, and Britain for offering military assistance.

Mubarak received visiting Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, who is currently heading a Jordanian delegation to meetings of the Egyptian-Jordanian Higher Committee, Cairo radio reported. Prime Minister 'Ali Lutfi revealed that the first meeting of the committee focused on bilateral economic relations, though he noted that Al-Rifa'i also conveyed a message from King Husayn expressing Jordan's support for all Egypt's measures to resist terrorism, the radio said.

Israeli-Moroccan Relations

Although Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres was cited by Jerusalem radio as saying that he will "definitely" meet with Morocco's King Hassan II, an official Moroccan statement carried by Rabat radio declared that King Hassan has not invited Peres either directly or indirectly. The statement, which was issued to clarify Hassan's remarks to French journalists, insisted that no meeting with Peres can take place unless he is "prepared to respond" to the Arab demands concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict. In the interview carried by Paris radio, the king had said that Peres should "come and see" him when he has "something serious to propose."

Israel

Jerusalem radio reported that Israel will shortly recall the diplomat who was the contact for the American suspected of spying for Israel in the United States. The radio suggested that two other diplomats may also be recalled in connection with the spy affair.

In the West Bank, the Israeli civilian administration appointed an Arab mayor and town council for Nabulus, Jerusalem radio announced.

PLO Affairs

A PLO Central Council (PCC) communique broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio called for an urgent meeting attended by all PLO factions, the PLO Executive Committee, and "national figures," in order to strengthen Palestinian unity. The communique, issued at the end of the PCC session in Baghdad, also called on the PLO leadership to fix a date and venue for such a meeting and stressed the need for the agenda to be open to all items and issues without conditions.

Lebanon

A National Resistance Front and Ba'th Party organization statement carried by Beirut radio announced that a suicide car bomb attack destroyed an "entire position" of the army of south Lebanon (ASL) near Jazzin which housed 50 ASL men and "a number" of Israeli intelligence officers. The ASL acknowledged that the bomb wounded one militiaman, AFP reported.

Iran

Confirming that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni is currently in "perfect health," Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told a press conference broadcast by Tehran radio that the Assembly of Experts appointed Khomeyni's successor so that society will never suffer a "leadership vacuum."

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'Text' of PLO Central Council Statement Issued

JN261814 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1606 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The PLO Central Council [PCC] ended meetings in Baghdad yesterday evening in the presence of brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and under the chairmanship of PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih. In its final communique the PCC stressed the need to pursue escalation of all forms of Palestinian popular and armed struggle against the odious occupation of the homeland. The PCC also stressed the need to pursue support for our Palestinian people's steadfastness with all means. The PCC condemned and denounced all terrorist operations, whether those in which states, individuals, or groups become involved, against the innocent and unarmed anywhere. The following is the text of the statement:

The PCC reviewed the current political situation from various angles as well as the bloody events which have swept the Arab region. Following a comprehensive discussion, the PCC adopted the following decisions and trends:

1. The Council condemns the U.S.-Israeli raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis — a raid which revealed the aim of the U.S.-Israeli alliance, constituted a blatant aggression against Tunisia's sovereignty and independence, and was aimed at brother Abu 'Ammar and his brothers in the Palestinian leadership. On this occasion, the Central Council salutes the Tunisian people and government as well as the great struggler Habib Bourguiba for their courageous stand with the Palestinian people before and after the raid. It also salutes the souls of the righteous Palestinian and Tunisian martyrs.

2. The Central Council denounces the U.S. act of air piracy against the Egyptian plan — an act which constituted a blow to efforts that the Egyptian Government, the PLO, and the Italian Government had exerted to save the lives of the ship's passengers. The Central Council, while denouncing this operation, hails the Italian people and government for their stand toward the incident and salutes the courageous stand of Prime Minister Craxi in facing the U.S. challenges. The Council also salutes and expresses appreciation for the Egyptian people and their president for their courageous, firm stand in confronting U.S. challenges and in supporting the Palestinian people and the PLO.

3. The Central Council declares its condemnation and denounciation of all acts of terrorism, be it by states, individuals, or groups, against innocent and unarmed people everywhere and stresses the PNC's decision in this regard.

4. The Central Council affirms to the PLO Executive Committee the need to escalate armed struggle against the Israeli occupation of the homeland and to continue to support our people's steadfastness with all means. The Council also calls on the Arab countries which did not fulfill their commitments to support steadfastness to honor these commitments as soon as possible in order to back our people's steadfastness in confronting occupation and all challenges.

5. The Central Council discussed the situation in our camps and kinfolk in Lebanon as well as their great steadfastness in confronting the U.S.-Israeli plan to strip them of their arms and destroy their camps in order to pave the way for their evacuation to Al-Biqa' and then to Jordan in accordance with demographic and factional bases.

6. The Central Council salutes the Lebanese and Palestinian strugglers who are defending their camps and cities against massacres, such as the first massacres in Sabra and Shatila, and striving to achieve the unity of Lebanon — land, people, and institutions. It also recommends that the PLO Executive Committee cooperate with all national, Islamic, and progressive forces in Lebanon in confronting the plot against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. The Council recommends the continuation of support for our people there to ensure the triumph of the steadfast people through solid national unity in defense of their existence.

7. The Central Council, at these historic moments in the lives of our people and proceeding from the PNC decisions during its successive sessions, stresses the importance of an urgent meeting among all Palestinian revolution factions, together with the PLO Executive Committee and national figures, in order to enhance the unity of our people, who proved their power and their support for the PLO Executive Committee inside and outside the occupied territories. We call on them to hold the meeting to reinforce the unity of the national march. The United States and the Zionist plan are trying to harm its achievements and gains at this critical stage. The Central Council asks the PLO Executive Committee and the Palestinian leadership to make the necessary contacts to fix a date and venue for that meeting. It also asks Palestinian figures inside and outside the Central Council to contribute in this regard. The Central Council stresses the need for the agenda to be open to all items and issues without any conditions and in accordance with our democratic tranditions and the PNC decisions. The Central Council also calls on our Arab brothers and our friends to exert their efforts in this direction in order to support PLO unity.

7. [As heard] The Central Council, while supporting the efforts of Arab and friendly sides to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region, stresses the importance of Arab soldiarity as a basic way to change the current balance of power. Continuation of the current Arab situation, with its differences, will help our Zionist enemy and imperialism and weaken our Arab nation's ability to confront the challenges. In order to overcome this serious situation, Arab solidarity should be achieved within a cohesive Arab formula that is able to fight while launching peace initiatives.

This front can consolidate our international stand if these basic conditions are achieved:

A. Ending the Iraq-Iran war so that fraternal Iraq — people, Army, and leadership — can resume its effective role in the Arab-Zionist conflict. This can only be achieved through one Arab stand, with Iraq, to stop the war, achieve peace for the Iranian people, the Iraqi people, the Arab and Islamic nation, as well as to liberate Jerusalem.

B. Adopting a trend to bring Egypt into the Arab front without the Camp David policies, taking into consideration the important

pan-Arab changes in Egypt toward the Paelstine question and the PLO, toward an international conference as a framework to reach a just peace based on our Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, and toward pan-Arab issues.

C. repudiating differences and bypassing all factors of division and disintegration by immediately convening an Arab summit conference to clear the heavily charged Arab atmosphere. Accord is the effective path to achieve this aspired solidarity, especially after the two superpowers' summit in Geneva.

8. Despite the imbalance in the Arab stand, the Central Council affirms the continuation of the policy of fighting, resistance, and escalation of armed struggle in all our occupied territory in parallel with political action on all levels armed with the PNC resolutions and the constants upheld by the Executive Committee at the Fes and Casablanca Arab summit conferences. The PCC also affirms the Jordanian-Palestinian action through the 11 February agreement between the PLO and the Jordanian Government, highlighting in this action the Cairo political declaration condemning terrorism and asserting our right of resistance with all means on all of our national Palestinian soil.

The Central Council also asserts that our political action will continue to be based on international legitimacy as expressed by all UN General Assembly and Security Council resolutions concerning the Palestine question from the position of commitment and confidence. Within this framework, the PCC calls on the Executive Committee and its chairman to take action with all sides in order to represent our people through the PLO in any international conference attended by the USSR, the United States, the permanent member-states of the Security Council, and all the parties concerned to discuss Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories or to discuss the Palestine question on the basis of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, including their right to return, self-determination, and the establishment of their Palestinian state on their national soil with Jerusalem as its capital, as well as to establish a confederation between the two states of Jordan and Palestine.

At the conclusion of its session, the PCC expresses its greetings and pride to our Arab and Palestinian masses who remained steadfast inside and outside the occupied homeland, the Golan, and southern Lebanon. The Central Council promises our Arab nation to continue struggle and action on various fronts to eliminate the occupation, restore the territory to its kinfolk, and fly the Palestinian flag over Jerusalem's minarets and churches.

Revolution until victory!

'Official' Sources Say PCC Approves New PNC Session

GF271028 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0830 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Dubayy, 27 Nov (WAKH) — Official Palestinian sources have indicated that during its meeting in Baghdad the PLO Central Council approved the idea of holding a new PNC session that would complement the Algiers session and cancel everything that was hammered out during the November 1984 session held in Amman.

Citing these sources, the UAE newspaper *AL-BAYAN* reports today that this matter is being left for discussions between the PLO leadership and the leaderships of the Palestinian opposition during the urgent meeting of the factions called for by the Central Council in the statement it issued yesterday. These sources added that the PLO leadership will immediately contact the other Palestinian factions in regard to holding a preparatory meeting with these factions to pave the way for a new national council of unity.

Palestinian Military Council Meets Under 'Arafat

JN261833 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] presided over meetings of the Palestinian Higher Military Council this morning. All of the members attended the meeting, which discussed the military situation and combat readiness of the Palestinian forces. Abu 'Ammar listened to detailed reports on this subject. The meeting also discussed developments in the political situation in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas.

UAE Paper: Egypt Undertakes To Improve PLO Image

GF260844 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0630 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Nov (WAM) — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, have agreed that Egyptian diplomacy will begin extensive international moves to activate efforts for a peaceful solution in the Middle East within the context of an international conference to be attended by various parties, including the PLO.

The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* says today that the Egyptian president promised 'Arafat that he will concentrate his efforts on the United States in order to improve the PLO's image on the U.S. and international levels.

The paper quotes reliable sources as saying that President Mubarak has agreed with 'Arafat to revive the U.S.-USSR communique issued in 1977, signed by former USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and former U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, which refers to the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. This will be an initial step toward improving U.S.-Palestinian relations.

The paper says that Egyptian diplomacy will intensify its contacts with the USSR in the near future for the purpose of creating a kind of balance in Egyptian policy between the superpowers.

PNC Speaker Confers With Iraq's Hammadi

JN261834 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] His Eminence PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih met with Iraqi National Assembly Speaker Dr Sa'dun Hammadi in Baghdad this morning. They reviewed the latest developments in the Palestine question and the current Arab

situation as well as cooperation relations between the PNC and the Iraqi National Assembly and ways to bolster them.

VOP Views Results of Geneva Summit for Mideast

GF251249 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Report by unidentified correspondent in Amman]

[Text] Probably a long time will pass before the summit of the two superpowers will yield any tangible results of international significance. The little information provided by the two conferring parties and the analyses being made by various quarters all indicate that the Reagan-Gorbachev summit was only the first step — and at best the meeting initiated a discussion of the many outstanding issues that were left unresolved by the two parties.

This is the general picture of the summit of the two giants. Publicity and interest during and after the summit have cooled somewhat compared with the great commotion that preceded it. Of course this applies to the Middle East crisis. The Middle East parties raised their own commotion on the eve of the U.S.-Soviet summit. During the waiting period that preceded the summit, these parties sent up numerous trial balloons in the form of demands and expectations, and deferred some parts of their political moves.

It is now apparently clear that the summit only touched on the Middle East question — that is, if it touched on the issue at all. This certainly does not mean that the Geneva summit was not as important as those who took part in it, or that it will not have strategic international consequences in the future. Nor does it mean that what happened in the Middle East as a result of the Geneva summit is not significant. Therefore, the following observations must be taken into consideration so that they can be used as guidelines that contribute to directing our policy concerning the region's crisis on the international level:

1. In view of the fact that our interest was concentrated on a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, the great hopes which the Arab side had attached to the possible results of the U.S.-Soviet summit were misplaced. Perhaps such high expectations were the result of a mistaken assessment of the importance of the Middle East question among the priorities of the superpowers, or perhaps they signified a weakness on the Arab side that has taken the form of empty hopes or demands that were disregarded. In both cases, we must realize that it is our strength and ability to bring influence that holds the interest of the great powers, not our hopes or our readiness to cope with what they plan for us.

Of course, the sudden Syrian-Israeli aerial clash can only be viewed as a form of showing our strength and ability to (?defend) our airspace in front of Moscow and Washington.

2. We have to note the way in which the two major capitals tackled the Middle East crisis on the road to the summit even if the crisis was not discussed at the summit itself. Moscow actually expanded to a large extent its press and statements by its officials, even issuing a communique distributed by its delegation in Geneva, and noted that it has adopted almost the same position as the Arabs concerning the international conference, the Palestinian issue, the prestige of the PLO, and the rights of the people whom it represents. While President Reagan was preparing to leave for Geneva, he asserted that he would oppose the idea of an international conference and conceal his support for Israel and his hostility toward the Palestinian rights.

3. The view of the Israeli side concerning the region's crisis and its settlement did not differ from the U.S. view. From this premise, peace in the region was not an Israeli concern that could affect the Geneva summit. The Zionists, in association with Washington, raised the so-called issue of Soviet Jews to practice extortion.

4. Following the conclusion of the summit, Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, arrived in the region on a tour. [Words indistinct] he visited occupied Jerusalem and Cairo and is to visit Amman and other places. He declared that the Middle East issue was on the summit agenda. Consequently, we can say that his tour is not internationally based concerning talk about energizing the wheel of peace in the region, as he says he is conducting. The U.S. position did not change. The position precludes the international conference which we call for, does not allow holding a dialogue with the PLO, dismisses the national legitimate rights of our people, and provides Israel with the ultimate possible type of support. Such a U.S. position could be the factor that blocked the discussion of the Middle East issue during the Reagan-Gorbachev summit. This could be the position which the Arab side has to change, not by succumbing to it, but by proving our potency and capability in challenging them.

Palestinian Groups Attack Israeli Bus, Settler

JN261915 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] A spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

In accordance with instructions to it, one of our combat groups operating inside the occupied homeland attacked with incendiary bombs a Zionist bus carrying a number of Zionist soldiers and settlers at the entrance of Nabulus in the occupied West Bank yesterday. The bus was burned and a number of Zionist soldiers and settlers were wounded. A large occupation army force rushed to the area, besieged it, began a large-scale search and combing campaign, and arrested a number of Palestinian citizens. Despite these measures, our combat group succesessfully retreated from the scene of operation. Revolution until victory!

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

The Zionist enemy radio admitted the operation but, as usual, did not refer to its losses.

A spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces also has stated the following:

One of our revolutionary heroes operating inside the occupied homeland stabbed a Zionist settler several times near the Holy Sepulchre in the heart of the Old City of occupied Jerusalem

yesterday. He managed to return safely to his base. Revolution until victory!

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the oepration. He said that the wounded settler was taken to the hospital for treatment. The enemy radio also admitted the operation. It said that senior police officers in the Jerusalem district and a large number of the so-called border guards rushed to the scene of operation, closed the gates of the Old City, launched a large-scale search campaign, and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of having connections with the operation.

Joint Forces Attack Lahd Position in S. Lebanon

JN261919 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The heroes of the Palestinian-national Lebanese joint forces used machineguns and rockets to attack a military position belonging to the militias of the so-called army of southern Lebanon near (Tallat 'Ali al-Tahir) east of the city of Nabatiyah in southern Lebanon at dawn yesterday. The position was heavily damaged, huge fires broke out in it, and a number of agent soldiers were either killed or wounded. The Zionist enemy radio admitted the attack but did not refer to the losses inflicted on the agent militias. It said that its forces and the agent militias opened artillery and heavy machinegun fire on the city of Nabatiyah and neighboring villages. A number of houses were destroyed and a number of citizens were wounded.

Iraqi Oil Minister Opens OAPEC Ministers Meeting

JN270946 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0904 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA) — The 35th session of the OAPEC ministerial conference began here today. Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi, current chairman of the ministerial council, made a speech in which he welcomed the participants in the conference and called for adopting positive resolutions and recommendations aimed at strengthening joint cooperation and corrdination among the OAPEC states so as to achieve Arab economic integration and lay the foundation of Arab unity.

Al-'Uraybi noted that the meeting takes place while Iraq is being exposed to Iranian aggression, which has for more than 5 years been aimed at realizing Iranian ambitions in the Arab region and interfering in its internal affairs.

OAPEC Secretary General Dr 'Ali 'Atiqah also spoke, expressing his appreciation to Iraq for hosting the conference at a time when it is engaged in defending the eastern gate of the Arab homeland. He wished the participants success so that positive results may be achieved to serve joint Arab economic action and realize a bright future.

BAHRAIN

Crown Prince Receives ROK Foreign Minister

GF261748 Manama WAKH in English 1620 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Manama, Nov 2 (WAKH) — Bahrain's Crown Prince and Commander in Chief of Defense Force Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah met here today with South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong currently visiting Bahrain.

The meeting was attended by Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah and the South Korean ambassador to Bahrain.

The Korean minister arrived here Saturday on a four-day visit to Bahrain as part of a regional tour.

OMAN

Richard Murphy Discusses Agenda of Meetings

GF261323 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Muscat, 26 Nov (WAKH) — Richard Murphy, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, stated that during his current visit to the Sultanate of Oman he would brief officials on the results of the U.S.-Soviet summit held in Geneva recently.

In a statement he made upon arrival in Muscat today, Murphy stated that he would review with officials the issues that were discussed at the summit, including bilateral relations between the superpowers, limiting the arms race, human rights, the Afghan cause, the Cambodian problem, and the situation on the African Continent.

Concerning the hijack of the Egyptian plane and its consequences, he expressed support for the fast and positive role played by Egypt to end the hijacking and at the same time expressed extreme regret over the fall of so many victims as result of the plane's hijack.

Concerning the U.S. Government's stance on the recent Palestinian Cairo Declaration, Murphy described it as a positive step toward ending violence and toward holding peaceful negotiations to realize comprehensive and permanent peace in the Middle East.

Confers With Sultan Qabus

GF261620 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id received at Al-Sib Palace Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs. The meeting was attended by Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; Haykal ibn Tariq, chief of Europe and the Americans affairs at the Foreign Ministry; and the U.S. ambassador to the Sultanate.

QATAR

Official Denies Rumors on Relations With USSR

GF261536 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 25 Nov 85 p 1

[Report by 'Isa Muhammad]

[Excerpt] A high-ranking Qatari source affirmed that the rumors indicating Qatar intends to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union are baseless.

The source stated that the issue was not discussed on the level of Qatar's supreme leadership. The source added that the Muscat summit did not recommend that the GCC countries establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and that whatever took place was up to the individual governments themselves.

SAUDI ARABIA

Crown Prince Returns from Bahrain 25 Nov

GF251902 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Excerpts] His Royal Highness 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, returned to Riyadh from Bahrain tonight after a brief visit to the sister Bahrain to inquire about the health of Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Bahraini prime minister, and to convey the greetings and best wishes of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz for good health.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz accompanied by Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah visited Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Bahraini prime minister, this afternoon at the military hospital in Al-Rifa'.

Crown Prince Discusses Regional, PLO Issues

GF221428 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Text] 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, has urged the Arab nation to construct rapprochement bridges and remove differences in order to unite ranks vis-a-vis the aspirations and dangers surrounding it. In a statement to the Kuwaiti paper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* published today, he expressed the Kingdom's welcome for clearing the Arab air of all differences. On the Iraq-Iran war, the crown prince hoped that the good efforts made will fulfill the goal aimed for. He said: To put an end to this war so that bloodshed will be stopped as soon as possible is our great wish. He renewed the Kingdom's support for the PLO. He said: The Kingdom's stance is constant, and its policies are clear and progressive in seeking the achievement of the Arab Palestinian rights and supporting all sincere efforts to justly resolve the issue.

Minister on Saudi, GCC Defense Development

GF231416 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0925 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Nov (WAKH) — Minister of Defense and Aviation Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz ruled out that his country will make new arms deals at the present time and affirmed that Saudi Arabia will not hesitate at any time to develop the Saudi Army.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* published today, Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'aziz said that Saudi Arabia will not hesitate at any time to develop its Army by purchasing every new item among the world's military weapons.

Referring to the joint defense pact among the Arab countries and its nonapplication in the Iraq-Iran war, Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said: This is not a Saudi affair. It concerns the Arab League, which passed the Arab joint defense pact.

The defense minister said that the Khalid military township ie presently the headquarters of the Peninsula Shield Force.

Asked whether the Khalid military township will be the center of assembly for the Gulf armed forces, he said: This matter is for the GCC leaders to decide.

Comments Further on GCC

GF260704 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, has asserted that coordination among the armed forces of the GCC countries exists and is improving. He pointed out that the joint exercises that have been carried out are examples of this coordination.

In an interview with an evening newspaper published today, Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said that the continuing visits and meetings among the military officials of the GCC countries contribute to this coordination. His Highness Prince Sultan added that the military colleges and specialized scientific military institutes are open to all Gulf nationals.

His highness remarked that if the supreme commands decide that the time has come to establish a Gulf military academy similar to the Gulf University, then undoubtedly it will be established, particularly as the exchange of expertise and information has brought the systems of military education in the GCC countries closer together.

His Highness Prince Sultan expressed pride in the Saudi Armed Forces and their ability to absorb any weapons system that our supreme command decides it is necessary to acquire. To absorb such a system the Armed Forces require a period no longer than that needed by the armed forces of advanced countries.

Jordan's King Husayn Arrives in Medina

GF231423 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1405 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Medina, 23 Nov (SPA) -- His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan arrived in Medina this afternoon on a visit, during which he will perform the afternoon prayer at the Prophet's mosque and will be honored to visit the tomb of God's Prophet, peace be upon him.

Departs 23 Nov

GF231500 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1445 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Medina, 23 Nov (SPA) — His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan and the delegation accompanying him left Medina today for Jordan following a brief visit, during which he performed afternoon prayers at the Prophet's mosque and was given the honor of visiting the Prophet's tomb.

Pakistan's Ziaul Haq Arrives in Riyadh

GF241105 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1025 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Nov (SPA) — Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq arrived in Riyadh at 1230 today on a visit to the Kingdom. His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz led the delegation that received him at King Khalid International Airport.

He was also received by His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general; Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs; senior civilian and military officials; and the Pakistani Embassy staff.

Meets King Fahd

GF241521 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1405 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Nov (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Excellency Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq met today in presence of his Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general. The meeting was also attended by Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the amir of Riyadh region; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; Rawfiq al-'Alamdar, his majesty's ambassador to Pakistan; and Amir Janjua, Pakistan's ambassador to the Kingdom.

The Pakistani president attended a luncheon earlier today with his majesty the king.

Concludes Visit, Departs

GF241558 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq left Riyadh this afternoon after concluding a short visit to the Kingdom. Among those bidding him farewell were His Majesty King Fahd

ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister, and inspector general; His Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of Riyadh; Foreign Minister His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal; Mansur al-Khurayji, acting chief of protocol; Engineer Sa'd al-Ta'san, director general of King Khalid International Airport; and top civilian and military officials, in addition to the Pakistani Embassy staff in the Kingdom.

Sudanese Defense Minister Arrives in Riyadh

GF261050 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Staff Major General 'Uthman 'Abdallah, member of the Transitional Military Council and defense minister in the fraternal Democratic Republic of Sudan, arrived in Riyadh this afternoon.

He was received on arrival by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general; Isa Mustafa, Sudanese ambassador to the kingdom; Staff General 'Abd al-Muhsin al-'Amran, deputy chief of staff; commanders of the ground, air, and naval forces; commanders of the air defense forces; and senior officers of the Armed Forces.

Gives Message to King

GF261327 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1305 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Riyadh, 26 Nov (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today received at the Royal Court Staff Major General 'Uthman 'Abdallah, member of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council [TMC] and the accompanying delegation. The Sudanese official handed his majesty a message from General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, TMC chairman.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister, and inspector general; Foreign Minister Crown Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal; and Sudan's ambassador to the Kingdom, Isa Mustafa.

Fatah Official Grateful for Financial Support

LD242314 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] Member of the Fatah Central Committee and its representative in the Kingdom, Rafiq Shakir al-Natshah, announced that the PLO has received the share allocated by the Kingdom to the organization which amounts to $28.5 million. Al-Natshah expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Kingdom, king, government, and people for their continued and firm support for the Palestinian revolution and the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. In a statement to SPA, Al-Natshah stressed that the Kingdom is the first country to fulfill its commitments toward the PLO [words indistinct].

Chief of Staff Leaves for Visit to Turkey

GF241220 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1142 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Nov (SPA) — Staff General Muhammad al-Hammad, chief of the General Staff, left Riyadh for Turkey today on a visit. He is leading a Saudi military delegation. The visit is in response to an invitation from the Turkish chief of staff.

UAE

Abu Dhabi Heir Apparent on GCC Security

GF221133 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1430 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Nov (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid Al Nuhayyan, heir apparent of Abu Dhabi and deputy supreme commander of the Armed Forces, affirmed that there is no substantial difference between the security strategy and the security agreement of the GCC states.

In an interview with the newspaper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* and the English daily *GULF TIMES* here today, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid said that the difference between the security strategy and the agreement is slight and can be overridden by the strategic agreement, which controls the GCC states and can be continuously and effectively developed.

Regarding the initiative of President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan within the framework of the initiative on the Arab Maghreb states to resolve the differences and clear the air there, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid said: This initiative is continuing, and we hope that the results of these efforts will soon appear.

The heir apparent of Abu Dhabi and deputy supreme commander expressed satisfaction over the efforts exerted toward the eastern Arab states to clear the Arab atmosphere of these differences, which harm the nation and its fateful causes, affirming that Arab solidarity is able to realize the hopes and aspirations of this nation in all directions.

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war and the efforts exerted to end it, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid said: We hope that the current efforts will succeed because we have worked and are still working with all the brothers who are interested in stopping this bloodshed and war.

Regarding the UAE's relations with Kuwait, he said: They are stable and are always developing for the better.

Defense Minister Rejects Doubts on UAE Cohesion

GF241210 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 24 Nov 85 p 1

[Text] Doubts about the economic and military cohesion among the UAE's seven emirates have been dispelled by Defence Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid.

In a 10 November interview with *MEED [MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC DIGEST]*, published in the magazine's issue yesterday, he also made clear Dubai's commitment to the federation

and voiced support for Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid as Dubai's future ruler. "Shaykh Maktum will be the next ruler of Dubayy because of political tradition, seniority, capability and the respect he enjoys in the country," Shaykh Muhammad told *MEED*.

He also said Shaykh Maktum was "widely expected" to succeed His Highness Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum as prime minister of the UAE.

The magazine said: "Shaykh Muhammad's statement about the future government structure should help to stop widespread speculation that Dubai, the second richest emirate, might start playing a lesser role in the federation than its importance entitles it to. He backed this up by asserting Dubayy's commitment to, and identification with, the federation. The statement is particularly timely in view of the fact that the UAE's provisional Constitution, which has been in force for three successive five-year periods since independence in 1971, runs out next year. It will then either have to be ratified, or extended for another five years."

The magazine continued: "Shaykh Muhammad also replied to the federal government's critics — who include young educated nationals — who say it lacks formal structure and direction, and plays a secondary role to that of the individual emirates.

"They base their criticism on various grounds. First, publication of the federal budget has been so delayed in the past three years that it has ceased to be a key economic indicator. The 1983 budget was published in July, 1983, the 1984 budget came out in August that year, and the 1985 budget was approved only in October. It has still to be ratified by the Supreme Council of Rulers."

Commenting on the delay, Shaykh Muhammad said it is "not really a problem," but he added that he did not blame contractors that declined to take work, from the federal government because of its slowness in paying. "They have good reason...but I can assure you that in the near future we will get better organised."

Second, say critics, the Supreme Council has not met in full session since June 1984, *MEED* writes. It is now due to convene on December 9.

Shaykh Muhammad warned against exaggerating the significance of the council's failure to meet; the rulers, he said, "are meeting and talking all the time — and things are taking off again."

He said: "The Cabinet (system) is working, Shaykh Rashid is not well but Shaykh Maktum and Shaykh Hamadan ibn Muhammad have been acting prime ministers. Under this Cabinet, all infrastructural projects in the country, such as schools, hospitals, roads, airports, ports, and social welfare systems, have been completed in a very satisfactory manner."

Shaykh Muhammad, who attended the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council (AGCC) summit in Muscat in early November, also discussed defense, in both local and international terms, with *MEED*. Commenting on reports that the summit seemed to be hinting at a more even-handed approach towards Iran and Iraq, he said: "AGCC countries will not draw away from Iraq, because we are all Arabs together." But he added that Iran, although not an Arab state, is a Muslim country; moreover, the AGCC's over-riding concern is to stop the war.

The six AGCC states, the minister said, have made substantial progress in defence and security cooperation. As far as security pacts are concerned, there are no problems. He reiterated the AGCC countries' commitment, set out in the summit's final communique, that if one member-country was attacked, "the rest will stand alongside that country. We have really gone a long way in the AGCC. The proof is in the (rapid deployment) force stationed at Hafr Al-Batin in Saudi Arabia, and in joint exercises, training and communications, and coordination of command and control."

The joint forces, which consists of one Saudi brigade and units from each of the other AGCC countries, is under the titular direction of Major-General Yusuf al-Madani, Saudi chairman of the AGCC's military committee.

Shaykh Muhammad said the force's significance lay not so much in its size — which was small — but in the fact that soldiers from each member country were represented. "I am very happy at the progress we have made," he added. "There is no going back. Of course, there are always sceptics, but my experience tells me that we have reached an advanced stage in our cooperation, so don't listen to anyone who casts doubt on our commitment and sense of purpose."

The same commitment can be seen in the UAE's own Armed Forces, he said. The Union Defence Force groups three regional commands — th western region in Abu Dhabi, the central region in Dubai and the northern one in Ra's al-Khaymah. Shaykh Muhammad flatly rejected the idea that Dubayy did not play a full role in the force; he referred to the joint exercises held by forces from Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

The Gulf war, he said, is the main concern facing all AGCC countries — the UAE included — and the reason why six states are coming closer together. He repeated a theme often expressed by AGCC officials: "We see a superpower saying we will come and help you. But we ourselves want to be in charge and want to be in the first line of defence. If there is a threat bigger than we can handle, we will ask for help. We know that neither the UAE nor any other Gulf country can, on its own, defend itself."

Finance Minister on Expatriates, Budget

GF221418 Manama WAKH in English 1620 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] Dubayy, Nov 21 (WAKH) — There are no government plans in the United Arab Emirates to lay off large numbers of expatriate workers as part of a five-year plan or any other plan, UAE Minister of Finance and Industry Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid said today.

In a statement to the Dubayy based *AL-BAYAN* newspaper, Shaykh Hamdan also denied the federal Cabinet has reviewed any study dealing with such an issue.

The minister was commenting on recent press reports following official statements from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, indicating the two Gulf states were planning to lay off about one million foreign workers during the next five years due to a drop in their oil revenues.

He also affirmed the government will not resort to lending from the local financial market to cover the deficit, adding it will continue in implementing the austerity measures, which have proved successful during the past three years.

Asked about the contribution of other Emirates in the federal budget, the minister said, "except from Abu Dhabi and Dubai, no other Emirate has contributed this year in the federal budget."

He said its contribution in future budgets depended on a decision by the Supreme Federal Council, which comprises the rulers of the Emirates of Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Al-Shariqah, Ra's al-Khaymah, 'Ajman, Fujayrah and Umm al-Qaywayn.

Pakistani President Departs Following Stopover
GF241824 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1805 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] Dubayy, 24 Nov (WAKH) — Pakistani President Ziaul Haq left Dubayy for his country tonight after a 3-hour visit.

He was seen off by Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid al-Maktum, deputy prime minister and Dubayy heir apparent; Defense Minister Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum; and a number of high-ranking UAE officials.

Tanzania's Salim Ahmed Salim Arrives for Visit
GF221110 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Text] Salim Ahmad Salim, Tanzanian deputy prime minister [title as heard] has stated that he will seize the opportunity of his visit to the UAE to hold contacts with officials on a number of issues of common interest and on cooperation between the two countries.

In a statement to WAM after he and the delegation accompanying him arrived in the UAE this morning, he praised the amicable relations between Tanzania and the UAE. He noted that the two countries' stands on international issues are identical. He praised the progress of the activities of the joint committee, particularly in the economic field. He emphasized that there is great potential for increasing bilateral cooperation in the future.

On Tanzania's stand regarding the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war, the Tanzanian official expressed his country's concern over developments in this war, which threatens the security and stability of the region. He affirmed that his country is cooperating with other countries in order to find a peaceful settlement to the war in the near future.

The Tanzanian official also emphasized his country's support for the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, and its support for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to set up an independent state on their national soil. The Palestinian issue is the core of the conflict in the Middle East, and without reaching a quick and just settlement to it, security and stability in the Middle East cannot be achieved and peace will remain in jeopardy, he said.

Sudanese Interior Minister Arrives for Visit
GF231336 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1150 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 Nov (WAKH) — Sudanese Interior Minister 'Abbas Madani Muhammad, heading a delegation, arrived in Abu Dhabi on a 4-day visit. During his visit, the Sudanese minister will discuss with a number of officials ways of strengthening and developing bilateral relations in security. On arrival, the Sudanese minister was received by Hammudah ibn 'Ali, minister of state for internal affairs, and 'Abd al-Latif 'Abd al-Hamid Ibrahim, Sudanese ambassador to the UAE.

Meets Minister of State
GF251924 Manama WAKH in English 1620 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Nov 25 (WAKH) — UAE Minister of State for Interior Affairs Major General Hammuda ibn 'Ali today met Lt. General 'Abbas Madani, Sudanese interior minister who is currently on an official visit to the UAE.

The two ministers reviewed security cooperation in various fields and expressed satisfaction over the close ties linking the two countries.

Madani said his visit to the UAE comes within the framework of bilateral cooperation between the two countries and is part of a Gulf tour to boost cooperation with brotherly countries.

Reaction to Plane Hijacking, Storming Reported

Mubarak Justifies Action

NC261544 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) — At the end of his meetings in Al-Qubbah Palace today, President Husni Mubarak stated that the hijacking of the Egyptian airliner is of a new type. I had not thought possible under any circumstance that the operation could have reached such a high degree of criminality. We had not seen this kind of thing before in any previous hijacking, Mubarak said in reply to a question from MENA about the hijacking of the Egyptian airliner and the decision to rescue the hostages and deal with this new kind of terrorism.

The president said that regrettably, this criminal act was committed by Arabs against an Arab country, namely Egypt, that has made great sacrifices for Arab issues and done its utmost for the Palestinian cause. He explained that the operation began Saturday evening. I was told at 2300 that after entering Egyptian airspace, the pilot of the Egyptian airliner flying from Athens had reported that a group of terrorists had ordered him to divert his flight to the Maltese airport.

President Mubarak went on: "Naturally, when I heard that the airliner would land at the Maltese airport, several things immediately crossed my mind, which I would rather not mention. I said to myself, let us wait until the aircraft lands at the Maltese airport and see what they want. I gave orders for the pilot to be contacted to see what the situation was."

Mubarak added: "The contact lasted only for a short time and was then cut off completely. I learned that there had been a fight between the four Egyptian security personnel and the terrorist hijackers." He continued: "The incident began when the leader of the terrorists came to the Egyptian security officer and asked him to give up his gun. The security officer was a brave man, and I hail his heroic action. He flung his arms around the terrorist, who put the gun to his neck, and fired three bullets, instantly killing him. This officer's body, however, was further beaten throughout the flight. The terrorists fired 18 bullets into his body. It was torture. Why? I do not know. It is a strange and a new type of crime."

President Mubarak noted that some of the bullets fired by the terrorists hit the body of the plane. The pilot was forced to descend because the difference in air pressure might have affected the passengers and the pilot. The pilot also (?released) the oxygen masks out of concern for the lives of the passengers. This is a normal procedure when an aircraft is depressurized.

In reply to a question, President Mubarak said that we had no further communication with the plane until it landed. We then contacted Malta and tried to find out what the hijackers wanted, what their demands were, and what it was all about.

President Mubarak emphasized: "We were not ready to bow at all. However, we said that we would talk with the hijackers, as in the case of the TWA plane, in order to find a way to rescue the innocent passengers aboard the Egyptian plane. The hijackers demanded that the plane be refueled and asked both for permission to land in Tripoli, Libya, and in Tunisia".

The president added: "Naturally, that was the last thing Tunisia wanted; it flatly refused. It appears that Libya also refused so that it would not be suspected. When the plane landed, they [not further identified] tried to talk to the terrorists, but the terrorists instead sent for the Libyan ambassador to speak with him. The Maltese Government called the Libyan ambassador and he came to the airport. While there, his government decided to immediately recall him to Tripoli. No negotiations took place and no discussion was held on Saturday evening."

President Mubarak said: "When I learned that the plane had landed in Malta, I told our foreign minister to inform the Libyan foreign minister that we felt that they were behind this operation, that this was a serious matter, and that we wanted to know what it was all about. The Libyan foreign minister said: We could not possibly carry out such an action. He asked for 15 minutes to reply."

The president added that the defense minister and prime minister were present during the telephone conversation that took place from the home of Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi between our foreign minister and his Libyan counterpart. "They told me so. We tried again to contact him but no one answered the telephone. The minute I learned about the hijacking, I (?expected) that humanitarian considerations would prevail to avert any grave consequences."

The president went on to say: After the plane landed, we had to be prepared for anything. However, our main objective was to do our utmost to rescue innocent people, the plane's passengers and crew. The hijackers refused to talk to anyone in Malta all day Sunday. The matter then became more complicated and the passengers were mistreated and humiliated. They kept on beating the Egyptian security officer as they walked up and down the aisle of the plane. They then fired 18 bullets into him. They beat him [words indistinct]. They then dumped him off the plane and he started to crawl. After that, they took one passenger at a time. The passengers were in a state of fear because they were beaten up at random. They were near collapse. Every individual they beat up they threw off the plane. Seven passengers were treated this way. One of them died and the rest are in serious condition; some of them might have died by now.

Continuing, Mubarak said: "Acts of humiliation occurred inside the plane. Every time the terrorists shot a passenger, they danced around and sang. This is a new type of crime that I have never heard of before in any act of terrorism." Mubarak noted: "On that day I was touring Al-Daqahliyah Governorate, but I kept in constant touch to monitor the situation. Early that morning we asked the Maltese Government for permission to send some of our elite units to rescue as many hostages as they could from the aircraft. At this point, I would like to thank France and several other countries that contacted us and expressed their readiness to help us by sending units specially trained for this purpose. I hereby express my deep appreciation of this gesture to both the Americans and the British. However, we have some very highly trained troops to rescue hostages aboard planes."

Mubarak pointed out: "The acts of murder continued. By contrast, the aircraft that was hijacked to Beirut remained on the tarmac for 17 days without any of its passengers being killed. Only one person was reported dead aboard the cruise ship that was seized. This time, however, hardly 24 hours had passed since the hijacking and seven people had been hit, apart from the passengers inside the plane."

Mubarak added: "The aircraft's pilot was very brave to bear all this pain. The Maltese Government refused to refuel the aircraft and tried to hold talks with the hijackers. They turned this down, asking only for the Libyan ambassador and some supplies. The Maltese Government asked them to release the children in exchange. However, they completely rejected this request and released the mothers while keeping the children. That was very strange." Mubarak asked: "Was this a humanitarian gesture? Did its perpetrators have any human qualities? Do they deserve mercy or humane treatment?"

Continuing, Mubarak said: "When the pilot saw that the hijackers were killing a passenger every 15 minutes, he asked for help. He took advantage of the opportunity that arose when the leader of the hijackers went to the bathroom. He got on the radio and said: 'Please, do something. Our situation is critical. We will all be killed and there is no escape.'"

Mubarak noted: "We delayed any operation to rescue the passengers, who were all our sons or guests. At about 2115, we decided, in agreement with the Maltese Government, to storm the plane. We did so after we realized that there was no other solution and after the pilot asked for help, saying that the only alternative was to storm the airliner."

Mubarak added: "Had we postponed our action, the hijackers would have killed a large number of passengers. Had this occurred, we would have been to blame for letting the situation deteriorate. This was particularly true as the murder rate increased and we were certain that the hijackers were madmen, devoid of any feelings or humanity."

Mubarak then pointed out: "In light of this, we decided to storm the plane, as we have some very highly trained men for this purpose. We could have stormed the aircraft right away, but our concern for the lives of the passengers prompted us to delay this step. We were prepared to wait for a day or two, had there been room for a dialogue or talks. There was none, and they asked for absolutely nothing beyond fuel, which the Maltese Government refused to supply."

President Mubarak went on to say: "Naturally, had the plane been refueled, not a single country in the world would have agreed to receive them (the hijackers), and they would have gone to Libya. Perhaps that is one of the reasons why the aircraft was never refueled. I do not want to confirm this; I will leave this subject, and the truth will emerge in the future."

President Mubarak added: "The Egyptian troops went there with specific assignments in accordance with a well-thought out plan; it was not haphazard as some thought. It was our last resort because things had reached a very critical stage. The pilot was calling for help and we had to intervene to save as many as we could, knowing that they already begun to kill some passengers. Of course, no matter what sort of assault it was, the hijackers, armed with pistols, could not have killed 90 passengers in their seats unless they shot them one by one. He added: "The storming operation was carried out by six shock troops whom I hail, for theirs was a heroic act and they exposed themselves to danger. They broke into the plane from three entrances. A phosphorous bomb was thrown at the first man who went in and his legs were badly cut. Three bombs were thrown at them as they broke into the aircraft. These are horrible incendiary bombs that are as hot as 1500 degrees."

President Mubarak added: The leg of one member of the Egyptian assault team was severed, while three other men were hit by fragments. Our troops, he said, fired only seven shots. The loss of innocent lives was the result of these incendiary bombs, which are universally banned. Some of the passengers suffocated. President Mubarak noted: Had these bombs been hand grenades, the fragments would never have killed such a large number of people. Only a few would have been wounded.

The president said: Of the seven bullets fired by our troops, three were aimed at the terrorists' leader, who turned to hit the plane's captain. The captain struck and killed him. The other four were fired at the other terrorists. All in aLl, seven bullets were fired.

The president added: It has been rumored that our forces used heavy fire. However, our men fired only seven bullets. It is impossible for so many people to be killed by seven bullets. Their deaths were the result of shrapnel incendiary bombs, and suffocation. Phosphorous bombs are the ugliest weapons that can be used.

The president said: According to our information, 47 out of 97 passengers survived. We could not give these figures before, as the hijackers collected everyone's passport and these documents were burned. We were without information for a long time.

Mubarak added that 2 stewardesses had been shot dead, and of the passengers, 13 Egyptians had died, as well as 12 Greeks, 8 Palestinians, 1 Australian, 1 Ghanaian, 2 Canadians, 2 Mexicans, 1 Belgian, 1 American, 11 Filipinos — none from Israel [as received] — and the hijackers. However, we were informed that one of the hijackers is in the intensive care unit; he was identified by the pilot.

Mubarak added: "We could not have waited any longer because they could have killed all the passengers. So we had to save whomever we could. Only six of our men broke into the plane, and they were extremely concerned about any further loss of lives. It was a horrendous operation and it was the first time that we know of that phosphorous bombs were used in this connection."

Mubarak added: "Libya has condemned the operation, but we have many reservations. I do not wish to elaborate, but I want to say that we would have never given in to any pressure. I felt extremely sorry for the innocent people who died. We never wanted a single one of them to die. Thank God they did not die as a result of the shooting by the Egyptian commandos. I want

to emphasize that our troops were highly trained and that they were extremely cautious. They had special devices with them to help locate the hijackers. These devices were attached to the doors to determine the hijackers' location. When they broke into the plane, they knew where the hijackers were."

President Mubarak went on: In brief, that was the operation and its aftermath. The whole world was with us because this operation had to be carried out just so. Had we been late, the whole world would have probably blamed us for the delay. It was the first time that within 24 hours, seven passengers had been shot. The remaining passengers would have probably been shot, too. We would have waited, had there been any room for dialogue. But there was none; it was very strange.

Asked about his visit to Al-Daqahliyah during the hijacking, President Mubarak said: It is impossible for the whole country to stop functioning. This country has to keep going. It had a plan and everything was under control. During my visit to Al-Daqahliyah I was in continuous touch with the officials in charge, to keep abreast of the latest developments. I gave my instructions every now and then, and I went back to Cairo at 1600. At that time, the situation had not yet deteriorated. So, as long as we communicated and everything was completely under control, I had nothing to fear.

Asked whether Abu Nidal was behind the operation, president Mubarak said: I heard that Abu Nidal yesterday came out in support of the operation. I am extremely sorry about this, but everything will come in due time. I know who was behind it, but I will not talk about it openly. There is a time for everything.

In reply to another question regarding his statement yesterday that some Arab states were involved in the operation, President Mubarak said: Only one Arab state could be involved. I am not at liberty to name it now, but it is a state whose only concern is terrorism.

When asked about the condition of the surviving hijacker, President Mubarak replied that he is in deep coma. A team of Egyptian doctors has gone to Malta to treat the wounded of various nationalities who were aboard the Egyptian plane.

As for the cause of the delay in announcing the names and number of the dead or rescued passengers, President Mubarak said: In many instances, no identification could be made in Malta due to the lack of personal effects or passports. Work is now be done to identify the dead and the rescued.

The president added that the Egyptian Government will follow all precedures regarding both Egyptians and non-Egyptians, as this is our duty.

When asked what effect this terrorist operation will have on the peace process and Egypt's efforts, President Mubarak noted that we should not be intimidated by such terrorist actions, since their goal is to impede and stop the peace process. We believe that Egypt has a role, commitments, and duties, and we must proceed with the peace operation.

The president added that terrorists seek only to hinder the peace process. We will not give in to such barbaric and savage actions perpetrated by irresponsible individuals, aided by a state with no feelings of responsibility or humanitarianism.

While replying to a question on what Egypt would do if Libya's involvement in this affair were confirmed, President Mubarak said we would then consider this matter.

When asked about the options open to Egypt, should Libya's involvement be proven and whether the military option was open, President Mubarak said: We will let the options depend on the circumstances. No head of state announces what he is going to do. We are governed by many factors, but we will never forsake our rights. Our rights will not be lost, even over time. I cannot comment on the military option. We are not warmongers; we are advocates of peace. However, should we resort to war, our goal would be to achieve peace. There is no need for me to talk about the option of war, because, in practical terms, war is no simple matter and we cannot go to war over simple matters. The decision to go to war could cause many deaths. One does not punish an entire people just to punish a single man.

As for the identity of the hijackers, President Mubarak said they were Palestinians who do not belong to the PLO. They are members of another Palestinian group opposed to the PLO.

While responding to a question on the Palestinian group responsible for this incident, President Mubarak said that one of its members is now in Libya. He is one of its leader and is staying at the "Grand Hotel" in room 401.

Thanks Reagan for Support

NC262102 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2030 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has sent a cable of thanks to U.S. President Ronald Reagan in reply to Reagan's cable on the incident involving the hijacking of the Egyptian plane. The following is the text of the cable:

Dear President Ronald Reagan.

I appreciate your message in which you expressed your support for the successful rescue operation involving the civilian Egyptian plane and your condolences to the families of the victims of the hijacking.

Egypt, a forerunner among states in fighting all forms of terrorism, is determined to firmly confront all terrorist operations and to deal sternly with the perpetrators, using the severest means at its disposal.

Egypt urges all states to shoulder their responsibility in confronting this phenomenon, which requires attention and seriousness so that the international community may rid itself of this danger which is threatening the safety of civil aviation, as well as the safety of innocent people.

Hijacker's Extradition Requested

NC271029 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1012 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA) — MENA has learned that the Egyptian Government has presented an official appeal to the Maltese Government to extradite the surviving terrorist, one of the hijackers of the Egyptian aircraft, so that he may be tried in accordance with Egyptian law. The Egyptian Government considers this a justifiable request under international law.

Ghazalah: Operation 'Successful'

NC262213 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2148 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, has stressed that the storming of the Egyptian plane was successful militarily, politically, and from every other point of view. He explained that any military operation normally involves losses.

In a statement broadcast tonight on Arab [Egyptian] television, Abu Ghazalah referred to reports that the terrorists cruelly killed several hostages and threw their bodies on to the tarmac. In view of this, the plane had to be stormed.

He said: We gave the operation's commander the authority to make the proper decision in cooperation with Maltese officials.

Abu Ghazalah indicated that the Egyptian Armed Forces will always be the vigilant guard of every Egyptian wherever he may be.

Leader of Commandos Remarks

NC262026 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1820 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) — Staff Major General Muhammad Kamal 'Atiyah, commander of the Al-Sa'iqah [Thunderbolt] Units and officer in charge of the force that stormed the Egyptian plane, said the decision to storm the aircraft was timely and led to the rescue of 44 passengers held hostage on board.

In an interview with Arab [Egyptian] television this evening, Maj Gen 'Atiyah noted that any delay in storming the plane would have resulted either in the death of all the passengers or in the demolition of the aircraft. He indicated that the storming operation did not last more than 2 minutes.

Maj Gen 'Atiyah explained how the plane was stormed. Soon after arriving in Malta, the members of the force began collecting information from the security guard and the stewardesses, who had all been hospitalized.

He added: Once the decision to storm the aircraft was made, four groups were formed. They were deployed at several points around the plane to ensure the operation's success and to rule out any surprises.

He said that the members of the force entered the plane quickly after breaking through the emergency doors. They used only pistols, as these men are highly skilled and capable of hitting a target with their first shot.

Maj Gen 'Atiyah added that the terrorists threw three bombs while the aircraft was being stormed. Two of these were phosphorous and incendiary. These explosives caused a fire which quickly engulfed those parts of the plane made of highly flammable materials. He added: The first bomb was hurled at the aircraft's main exit. However, the members of the force were able to clear this area, and a large number of passengers were evacuated through the main exit.

He added: At that time, the fire was spreading toward the rear section, where there were many passengers. Efforts to extinguish the blaze were unsuccessful, and this caused many casualties.

Maj Gen 'Atiyah stressed that none of the passengers were hit by shots from the Egyptian force. He said: I challenge anyone to bring to me a body containing a bullet fired by the Egyptian force that stormed the plane.

He reaffirmed that the bombs and the fires inside the plane raised the number of casualties. He said that the Maltese Government's fire-fighting equipment was not enough, and added: We used all means available to exinguish the blaze. However, the fire-fighting equipment was neither enough, nor up to standard.

Maj Gen 'Atiyah concluded by pointing out that the storming operation was conducted in record time and in a way that stunned the terrorists.

Terrorists' Communique Detailed

NC271008 Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 26 Nov 85 pp 1, 8

[Excerpt] In Beirut, *AL-NAHAR* received a joint communique by the Revolutionaries of Egypt Organization and the Arab Revolutionary Brigades in which they declared their responsibility for the operation "Martyrs of the Zionist Raid on Tunis." Following is the text of the communique:

The Revolutionaries of Egypt Organization and the Arab Revolutionary Brigades declare their responsibility for the "Martyrs of the Zionist Raid on Tunis" operation which was carried out yesterday and ended at dawn today at Valletta Airport in Malta. Our two organizations declare the following:

1. There were no demands made to the Maltese authorities except to supply fuel. The passengers of the plane — who were not hostages in the hands of our revolutionaries, but hostages in the hands of the forces of Zionism, U.S. imperialism, and the tools of Camp David, as represented by the regimes of Husni Mubarak, Abu Ghazalah [defense minister], Jordan's king, the treacherous 'Arafat leadership, and the column of small agent reactionaries who rule most of our Arab nation's countries — would then have been released. It is those agents who have revealed their role and connections as cheap tools in the hands of the U.S. Pentagon and the Zionist Mossad organ who are responsible for the lives of the victims. The involvement of the special forces, which were built up by the great martyr Jamal 'Abd

al-Nasir, in this dirty mission will not harm Egypt's Army and its great people.

2. The object of our operation of martyrdom and of subsequent operations we have planned is to express the stand of the Arab nation which has made martyrdom for the sake of Palestine a means and an end. There is no way to martyrdom at this stage except through Palestine. We were expecting martyrdom for this unique group in a direct confrontation with the Zionists. But the Camp David regimes — the protectors of the Zionist entity — prevented it and this great group was martyred on the ground of Valletta Airport.

3. Future surprise attacks by our organizations, which will also involve martyrdom, will include youths from most of our nation's countries, but Egyptians and Palestinians will be in the front line of martyrs.

4. Our two organizations declare that this group comprised three sons of Palestine, two sons of 'Abd al-Nasir's Egypt, and one international struggler. Their names and photos will be released at the appropriate time.

Glory to the martyrs of our nation.

Shame and disgrace to the reactionary Arab traitors.

Victory to the forces of our fighting nation.

AL-AHRAM: Libyan 'Operations Center' in Athens

PM271101 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 26 nov 85 p 1

[Muhammad al-Hinnawi report: "Libyan Opposition Sources Say Libyan Intelligence Behind Plane Incident After Moving Operations Center to Athens"]

[Text] London — Well-informed Libyan sources have revealed that Libyan intelligence was behind the incident of hijacking the Egyptian plane in Athens.

The sources said that the Libyan intelligence main operations center was moved from West Germany to London [as published] only 2 weeks ago. The operations center played a major role in the hijacking of the Egyptian plane and in all the sabotage operations carried out in Europe and in various parts of the world recently. It undertakes contacts with terrorist elements and supplies them with arms to carry out terrorist operations.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-AHRAM*, Libyan opposition sources in London said that the main Libyan intelligence operations center is currently using the offices of the "Libyan Maritime Shipping Company" in Athens as its headquarters.

The sources said that three persons are organizing and directing terrorist operations using the company as cover. These are: 'Abd Al-Mun'im al-Zaqla'i, Muhammad al-Miladi, and Nasir Nusayr. The Libyan opposition sources asserted that Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi is now trying to recruit new terrorist elements to carry out his objectives and that since several of the elements working for him have been exposed he has published advertisements to this effect in Arab papers published in European countries.

Commentaries on Hijackers' Aim: To Embarass Egypt

'Secret War' Against Peace

NC261720 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Bahyy al-Din Shu'ayb commentary: "Egypt's Confrontation of Terrorism Part of Fight for Peace"]

[Text] After the hijacking of the Egyptian plane and the tragic end forced on its passengers, an objective analysis of this incident is inevitable. It is no longer just a question of some hired killers who hijacked an Egyptian plane and murdered innocent people, whose bad luck placed them in the trap of terrorism. Evidently, it is a question of a secret war waged by the forces of evil and the Arab rejectionists against the peace process and against all parties with a sincere interest in restoring regional stability.

The first thing that attracts our attention is the conspirators' decision to take quick action against Egypt. They brought a squad of hired cold-blooded killers on to the battlefield with the goal of hurting Egypt's reputation. They sought to do so by hijacking an Egyptian plane and liquidating its passengers, thus showing whole world that the power of terrorism is greater than that of Egypt. This means that those killers wanted to blackmail and intimidate Egypt in order to have it abandon its present approach to the peace process. This approach has won worldwide respect.

Now that those who have been attacking Egypt over the past few years are aware that their campaigns were no more than hollow slogans, they thought that the premeditated murder of, or conspiracies against Egypt's guests — whether on Egyptian soil or aboard its planes — would silence Cairo. The second goal behind the hijacking of the Egyptian place was to destroy the relationship between Egypt and the PLO, to answer the visit that Yasir "Arafat and other senior PLO officials paid to Egypt, and to let everyone know that this new relationship can be hurt and that anyone who supports Yasir 'Arafat will be punished immediately for doing so.

The seizure of the Egyptian plane was a challenge both to 'Arafat and to the declaration he made from the heart of Cairo condemning all sorts of terrorism against unarmed civilians. The purpose of this incident was to make 'Arafat believe that with Egypt's support he would not be able to put a stop to terrorism. It also sought to cast doubt before the entire world — on 'Arafat's ability to lead the PLO and represent the Palestinian people. Furthermore, there are certain Arabs who support and finance terrorism and who wanted to use this incident as a response to Egypt's exposure of their terrorist schemes against their sons living in Egypt.

To face this kind of secret and declared [as heard] war, Egypt had no choice but to accept the challenge and prove to everyone that Egypt's political leaders, who have opened their hearts and mind

to all Arabs and whose patience has been above all acts of vituperation, folly, and suspicion, will never hesitate for a moment to make the difficult decision regardless of the consequences.

What happened was not so much the hijacking of a plane as it was a battle by terrorists against Egypt. Egypt had no alternative but to deal terrorism an extremely violent blow. It did so to emphasize to all those who planned this operation that Egypt will never give in to terrorism or blackmail. It will confront any similar act with the necessary firmness that its love for its sons and for the sons of other countries requires.

While expressing its regret at the number of victims who fell in the storming operation, Egypt holds all those who planned and instigated this hijacking responsible for the death of innocent passengers and for jeopardizing the safety of civil aviation.

Gain in 'Every Passenger Saved'

PM261931 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 26 Nov 85 p 7

[Salah Muntasir "Mere Opinion" column: "The Plane Operation"]

[Text] Of all the plane hijacking operations carried out previously, the recent hijacking of the Egyptian plane was uniquely characterized by the spirit of evil, violence, and lust for killing shown by the perpetrators for no political reason so far apparent.

Despite the ambiguity involving the operation, the following general remarks can be palced on record:

1. It has been established that security precautions at Athens airport are almost nonexistent. Otherwise, how can the boarding of the plane by, not one or two, but five passengers armed with guns, bullets, and hand grenades be explained? Five armed passengers in one single plane! What security precautions can the Greek authorities claim exist at Athens airport?

2. From the outset the hijackers were thirsty for killing. It was as if the orders given to them by those who sent them were: Kill, destroy, and shed blood. If anything, such orders reflect the spirit of hatred those behind the operation feel toward Egypt.

3. The strangest thing about the operation was that it began and ended without the perpetrators' making a single demand other than the demand for refueling the plane. This was a ridiculous request which, if anything, shows that they had no cause and no objective and that their primary motive was to kill for the sake of killing and to commit a sensational action, by which those behind the operation would give vent to their hatred for Egypt.

4. It was clear from the first moment that the hijackers were resolved to indulge in -- and not to refrain from -- killing because this was the only objective of the operation. For this reason they were going to carry out their threat to kill one passenger every hour or every 15 minutes because clearly the operation was for the purpose of killing -- and only killing, since there was no political or negotiating demand which, if met, would cause the perpetrators to surrender or hold their fire.

5. This being the situation, it was impossible to rescue a single passenger except through the assault carried out by the Egyptian special force troops. It is true that operation resulted in a number of casualties, but every passenger saved was a gain by comparison.

Finally, in order to know the real perpetrator we must look around us for those who harbor in themselves this great hatred of and desire for revenge on Egypt.

Mubarak Leads Joint Committee With Jordan, Iraq

Message From King on Hijacking

NC261539 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] President Husni Mubarak received Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, this afternoon. Al-Rifa'i is leading his country's delegation to the meetings of the Egyptian-Jordanian higher committee. Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi was present as well.

The Egyptian-Jordanian Committee held its first session this morning. After the meeting, Prime Minister Lutfi said that Prime Minister al-Rifa'i conveyed King Husayn's regret at the loss of life in the hijacking of an Egyptian plane to Malta. Al-Rifa'i also delivered a message from King Husayn and his government in which the king expressed his support for all the measures taken by Egypt to resist terrorism. Prime Minister Lutfi added that storming the plane was Egypt's only alternative. This action, he said, will make terrorists think twice before attempting such a thing again.

Dr Lutfi noted that the two sides used today's meeting to review everything that has been accomplished since the committee's last session in Amman in April. Issues related to bilateral trade, agriculture, and transport were also discussed. Several decisions were made in a bid to remove all problems and obstacles, and to give a strong push to bilateral relations in various fields of common interest. Dr Lutfi pointed out that in the first session it was agreed to establish an Egyptian-Jordanian holding company with 50 million dollars in capital. The firm's main office will be in Amman, and its managing director will be an Egyptian. The company's articles of incorporation will be signed during Prime Minister Al-Rifa'i's visit to Cairo.

In the field of food security, a decision was made to establish a joint stock company as a subsidiary of the holding company that deals with fishing. It was also decided to study the possibility of setting up a third firm as another subsidiary of the holding company to product greenhouses. In addition, the two countries will exchange expertise in agricultural training.

In an effort to surmount problems concerning bilateral trade, it was agreed that trade exchange commodities will not fall within the purview of the Rationalization Committees as long as this type of exchange comes under the protocol for bilateral trade

cooperation. A second condition is the establishment of a maximum limit for the export of commodities included in the trade exchange agreement. A decision was made to sign the 9th trade protocol, which will cover 1986 and have a value of 20 million dollars before the end of this year.

Dr Lutfi announced that in accordance with an agreement reached, the Nasr Import and Export Company in Cairo will no longer be sole conduit for bilateral trade, particularly in the private sector. Another company, which the Egyptian minister of economy will select, will be added in order to create an atmosphere of competition between the two firms.

Finally, it was agreed to facilitate customs and passport procedures, and other operations, between the Nuwayba' and Al-'Aqabah ports. Such measures will now be completed aboard vessels.

Foreign Minister on Regional Peace Efforts
PM261221 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic
23 Nov 85 p 9

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid with Sana' Sa'id in Cairo; date not specified]

[Text] Question: Shultz stressed that the name of the game is direct negotiations, while Israel stressed that there is no alternative to direct negotiations with Jordan or with a joint delegation not including PLO members. Does this not indicate a complete block on your path and on the path to an international conference?

Answer: Diplomacy knows no despair. We are flexible in dealing with situations as long as no principles are forsaken. I would recall here what George Shultz said at the Security Council on 26 September, when he pointed to Article 99 of the UN Charter which empowers the secretary general to summon the Security Council to discuss matters threatening world peace and security. Shultz also based his statement on Resolutions 242 and 338, which means calling on the Security Council to discharge its duties. Afterward King Husayn made a speech at the General Assembly in which he emphasized the Security Council's role. Also, Shimon Peres made a speech at the General Assembly on 21 October in which he too saw a role for the Security Council. Egypt for its part fully supports the Security Council in carrying out its role of preserving international peace and security, especially in the Middle East.

All this proves that the parties concerned are convinced about giving the Security Council a role in reaching a settlement. What is required now from the parties concerned, in the light of this progress, is to understand the importance of convening an international conference. When such an understanding is reached, then the details of convening the conference can be discussed.

Question: Meanwhile Israeli officials have expressed their opposition to holding an international conference with the participation of the Soviet Union. They hinted that Israel might be ready for an international participation provided that the superpowers have no power to intervene in the negotiations. What is your opinion?

Answer: I have already discussed the question of an international conference and our attitude and the attitude of certain parties to it. I would stress once again the importance of an international conference at this stage. I would also affirm the importance of the major powers' presence at the conference in view of the guarantees they will provide for reaching a just and comprehensive solution in the area.

Question: In view of the recent movements and the speculations following the Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement, I wonder what will happen to the Egypt-Jordan coordination which official quarters have said was intended for working jointly for the removal of the obstacles preventing the convening of an international conference.

Answer: Since King Husyan took his bold step to restore relations with Egypt in September 1984, relations between the two countries have reached an unprecedented level of continuous coordination and consultation. The frequent meetings between the Egyptian and the Jordanian leaders, the operation of the shipping line between the port of Al-'Aqabah and Nuwaybi', and the flourishing traffic between the two ports linking the Arab East with Egypt and the African continent and the Mediterranean, in addition to the strengthening of relations between the two countries at all political, economic, and cultural levels, are a proof of strong ties between the two countries. In the next few days the Egyptian-Jordanian joint committee will hold its third meeting in Cairo under the chairmanship of the two countries' prime ministers. All this goes to prove that there is without any doubt a determination to strengthen ties between the two countries and to reach a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem through total coordination with the PLO under Yasir 'Arafat's leadership. So there is no fear about joint coordination between us.

Question: Some people believe that the February Amman accord has now come to a halt or no longer exists. For this reason efforts to initiate a dialogue between the United States and the PLO have stopped and efforts, whether on your part or on the part of Jordan and Syria, are now concentrated on calling for an international conference.

Answer: The Amman accord is still the principal mainstay for the settlement of the Palestinian problem. It has laid down the basis for a settlement acceptable to the PLO and Jordan. In other words, it is the general framework within which Jordan and the PLO move. King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat have declared their adherence to the accord and the principles it contains.

With regard to the dialogue between the United States and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, recent events in the area and the changes they brought about were the reason why the efforts to achieve this faltered. The PLO has given a new dimension to the situation with the Cairo Declaration, thereby proving its ability to shoulder its responsibility for reaching a political solution. I would like to point out here that dialogue between the

United States and a Jordan-Palestinian delegation was not an end in itself. Indeed, it was simply a step in the right direction in order to reach a clear dialogue and clearly define the attitudes of the principal parties to the problem (Jordan and the PLO) and a principal party which is an actual partner in the peace process (the United States). Had this step succeeded, it would have been followed by other steps such as the holding of an international conference.

Question: The Jordan-Syrian rapprochement could be an indication of definite changes in the area, in the forefront of which is the undermining of the strategic ties that link together Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO, given the fact that Syria represents an element of pressure against Egypt and 'Arafat. How can this situation be reconciled at present?

Answer: I would like first to affirm that Egypt supports every step to bring about rapprochement between the sister Arab states. This is our strategic policy, from which we do not deviate, because the Arab nation's fate depends on the solidarity it can achieve among its states. In my view the Jordan-Syrian rapprochement is two-pronged: One prong concerns the improvement of bilateral relations between the two countries, which we consider a good gesture on the part of the two countries, and the other concerns the Middle East problem. Jordan's stand with regard to coordinating with Egypt and the PLO and recognizing 'Arafat's leadership is clear. Syria for its part has a different attitude to this matter — something for which we blame our Syrian brothers. The PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and Yasir 'Arafat is the Palestinian personality capable of presiding over and leading the PLO. We for our part hope that Syria will realize the importance and the gravity of the present situation with respect to the problem and will join the peace efforts.

Question: Do you believe that the Cairo Declaration gives the PLO a foothold and enables it to participate in any peace talks, that is an initial step which is sufficient to build on, or must it be followed by other steps such as PLO recognition of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338?

Answer: The Cairo Declaration is in itself a historic step on the part of the PLO. If anything, it shows that the PLO is determined to pursue a peaceful course in solving the Palestinian problem. The Cairo Declaration is a link in the continuous chain of steps aimed at achieving peace which began with the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. These steps should be followed by further steps, not only on the part of the PLO but also on the part of the United States and Israel. We cannot at the present stage ask the PLO to show all its cards, because every card has its calculations and reactions. In any event, we hope that at the Baghdad meeting the PLO leaders will adopt a unified stand and common formula with regard to future steps.

Question: It has been decided to resume the talks on Tabah despite the fact that you suspended them following the Israeli raid on Tunis. What has developed that warrants the resumption of those talks?

Answer: On 1 October, when the Israeli planes bombed the PLO headquarters in Tunis, the Foreign Ministry issued a statement expressing its deep dismay and denunciation of the barbaric raid, whose victims were a number of Palestinian and Tunisian brothers. A session of talks with Israeli experts was scheduled to be held in Egypt a few days later concerning the Tabah problem. Naturally we were not prepared to receive the Israeli delegation in those days, after what Israel did in Tunis. In the Foreign Ministry statement we rejected the idea of receiving an Israeli delegation. However, on the other hand in the midst of events we should not forget the Tabah problem, which is a problem of destiny. Tabah is Egyptian land that we cannot abandon. Therefore, it is unwise to abandon our case without following it up or to let it rest idle, because we would be giving an excuse to certain parties in Israel for further procrastination. For this reason we decided to resume the talks on 3 December. We are confident that our right is clear and our position sound on the basis of the documents in our possession.

Question: With regard to Egyptian-Soviet relations. I wonder if your relationship is still dominated by fear of the Soviets' creating a breach through which they can interfere in Egypt's internal affairs?

Answer: Just as Egypt does not interfere in the internal affairs of any country, it does not allow any party whatever to interfere in its internal affairs. Our decision on any issue is 100-percent Egyptian, and our will is always free.

We establish our relations with foreign countries, including the superpowers, on the basis of mutual respect and common interests. Our relations with the Soviet Union since the return of the two countries' ambassadors to their posts last year have been based on these principles.

Question: With regard to Egyptian-Arab relations, it has been reported that diplomatic relations between Egypt and Algeria will be restored in a few weeks' time. Is this true?

Answer: Several contacts are taking place between Egypt and the majority of the Arab countries. The Sultanate of Oman last week was the scene of meetings at the highest level between President Husni Mubarak and a number of Arab brothers and other leaders. Cairo was also recently the scene of meetings with envoys from the Arab countries. In all those contacts Egypt's primary concern was not the question of restoring ties, but of striving for unity of ranks and stands in the face of the fateful issues confronting the Arab nation. Egypt plays its role in respect of Arab issues with all sincerity and according to the dictates of its responsibility, without waiting for the restoration of ties.

Egyptian-Algerian relations are very good. Cairo and Algiers have exchanged envoys, and President Husni Mubarak met with President Chadli Bendjedid at the African summit last July. In its contacts with Algeria, Egypt has not raised the question of restoring relations because we do not wish to embarrass anybody and we are not running after anybody. On the other hand, Egypt's heart and Egypt's doors are open to any Arab brother who might wish to restore relations, particularly since it was not Egypt that broke off relations first. Just as we do not dictate terms to anybody, we refuse to let anybody dictate terms to us.

Question: Tomorrow you are going on a European tour. What

are the objectives of this tour, given that it is taking place prior to the European summit next month?

Answer: There is no doubt that the European countries, in view of their ties with the Middle East and the common interests that link them to the countries of the region, have a vital role to play in reaching a just and comprehensive solution, especially if we are to assign a role to the Security Council in solving the problem and in view of the fact that Britain and France are permanent members of the Security Council. The aim of my coming tour of a number of European countries is to review the present situation and the developments in the area. We will discuss our views about the steps to be taken in the future and the amount of the contribution required from the European countries, particularly with a view to the European summit next month. We hope that the meeting will result in a unified and definite European stand toward the present developments that will contribute to progress in the peace process and encourage the parties concerned to exert further efforts.

Al-Baz Discusses Ties With Arab Nations, Israel

GF221542 Muscat 'UMAN in Arabic 20 Nov 85 p 7

[Interview with Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the Preisdent's Office for Political Affairs, by unidentified correspondent, during his visit to Oman to participate in national day celebrations]

[Excerpts][Question]Sudanese President 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab has announced that his country is mediating between Egypt and Libya. How far has this mediation gone?

[Usamah al-Baz] There is no mediation in the official meaning of the word which Sudan, our partner in everything, or any other fraternal Arab country, is making. However, there are attempts to clear the air. We welcome all attempts to clear air between any two Arab countries, or between Egypt and any other Arab country because we are working on the basis that there is no real contradiction of interest between Egypt and any other Arab country.

What we are complaining of is that some Libyan practices do not realize the interest of the two parties. They neither realize the interest of Egypt, nor of Libya. If they realize Libya's interest, we surely would cooperate with them because what realizes Libya's interests will surely reflect on us. We are encouraging Libya to stop such practices. Arab issues should be concentrated upon; we should not be involved in minor differences. There are adversaries and enemies common to the Arab nations; we do not want to transfer this to inter-Arab relations. Differences between Libya and any other Arab country should not take priority over Libya's differences with another foreign country.

The issue of terrorism and the threat to people's security inside and outside the Arab homeland does not benefit any Arab country. It rather benefits the enemies and terrorist countries, groups, and gangs outside which are taking advantage of this.

We believe that the Libyan people's money should be used — as it is being used in Oman and other countries — in development, reconstruction, education, construction of hospitals, roads, and factories, assimilation of modern technology, and the process of social and economic changes which are needed for our societies so that we can deal with the outside world with high efficiency.

[Question] Egyptian-Arab relations have witnessed remarkable progress represented in a series of meetings and contacts between Egyptian officials and their brothers in a number of Arab countries. These contacts were crowned with the establishment of relations with Jordan. Do you expect a similar step soon by another Arab country?

[Al-Baz] There are no indications that the resumption of dipiomatic relations between Egypt and another Arab country — other than the countries with which we have relations — is imminent. What is important is that there is an understanding to maintain contacts. This is more important than diplomatic relations themselves, because there may be diplomatic relations between two countries, but there possibly no contacts between them, or relations between them may be tense. At present we are exceeding formalities in relations, and we put emphasis on the essence. It is better for us to have strong contacts with Iraq, Algeria, and other countries, while we have strong cooperation with other countries. There is close coordination between us and the Gulf countries. We had strong cooperation particularly after the security events which threatened us as individuals and groups. We are viewing all these events from a pan-Arab perspective. In other words, everything that benefits an Arab country will benefit Egypt in the same way. Probably this will not be a direct benefit, but will benefit us in the long-run by making a strong front that is able to face the foreign world and that will make us review priorities. If we review the priorities of some people, we will find them to be wrong. Do priorities mean that we should disturb each other and employ our information and political and diplomatic efforts for this purpose? Is it a priority that neighboring countries differ, plot against each other, and carry out acts to undermine the security of the other side? These are not priorities. Priorities mean we should utilize our efforts for the development of every Arab country individually.

[Question] How do you view Shim'on Peres' recent proposals on the situation in the occupied territories? Did the meetings between their majesties and highnesses in Muscat discuss these proposals?

[Al-Baz] We do not consider Israel's plan a serious one for cooperation. Shim'on Peres' proposals were seen to be of a propaganda nature. Real discussion should be conducted between the PLO and Israel; the Israelis have to understand that they should negotiate with the PLO being the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The PLO is making certain proposals which we believe to be logical and reasonable: An Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza, enabling the Palestinian people to practice their right to self-determination and to set up their independent state on this land, which will enter into a confederation with Jordan. In return for that, the Palestinians are ready to live in peace and good neighborliness with Israel. This will end the state of enmity between Israel and the Arab countries. Israel should also withdraw from the Golan Heights. A state of peace will thus start between Israel and Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and the Palestinian

state, which will have confederation with Jordan.

With this, the peace chain will be completed because when we launched peace steps with Israel, we were not adopting a unilateral measure or a separate solution. So we launched peace like a spear used in a certain operation or a battle that initiates peace with Israel — provided that this peace process will continue between Israel and all its neighbors. There is a passage in the peace agreement signed in Camp David that states this fact. So, when the Arab leaders convene, they do not discuss Israeli proposals because there are Arab proposals that are more worthy of discussion. Therefore, when the Arab leaders convene, they coordinate their efforts. This coordination is very important because it permits giving every side a certain responsibility. When Oman meets with officials from 10 countries and Egypt meets with officials from 10 countries, and so does Jordan and other countries, we will ultimately save efforts and concentrate efforts instead of meeting with the same countries for the same goals. So, something must exist which we call the distribution of responsibilities. When [Omani] Sultan Qabus meets, he talks in the name of all the Arabs, and so does the Jordanian monarch and other Arab leaders. Owing to this, the Arab effort will arrive at a good outcome, because everyone uses one language, which is honorable peace based on justice, respect for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the right of Israel to exist. Without this balance, no equation can be valid.

[Question] The issue of Tabah still constitutes a source of worry and indignation among the Egyptian Government and public. What have you attained in your efforts to the return of this land to the motherland?

[Al-Baz] Efforts are continuous. A session was scheduled to be held to discuss this point a month ago, but the perfidious Israeli aggression on Tunis and on the PLO made us suspend these talks. The talks may be resumed in some weeks. We are resolved to restore every inch of Egyptian territory because it is a matter of principle. Israel conceded in the peace treaty to [withdraw to a line] behind the international border. This is precedence that the Arab side has to benefit from when they hold negotiations. They should hold negotiations on this basis so as to ensure a comprehensive Israel withdrawal to a line behind the borders. We believe that the Tabah issue will be settled in the end. If it cannot be settled through contacts we will then resort to international arbitration. We have documents and proof that make us confident that the right will be on our side.

Soviet Ambassador Briefs Mubarak on Geneva Summit

NC261207 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1115 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Aleksandr Belonogov, the Soviet ambassador to Cairo, at the Al-Qubbah Palace this morning. The meeting was also attended by Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs. Following their 75-minute session, the Soviet ambassador said that he had requested to meet with President Mubarak in order to brief him on the outcome of the recent U.S.-Soviet summit in Geneva. He also noted that he had delivered a message to President Mubarak from the Soviet leadership on this subject. The Soviet ambassador added that he had discussed bilateral relations with the president. He said that he had conveyed his country's condolences and regret over the sad incidents involving the hijacked Egyptian airliner and the death of innocent victims. The Soviet Union, Belonogov emphasized, is ardently opposed to such terrorist actions.

'Abd al-Majid Visits France, Meets Mitterrand

For French and Egyptian accounts of the visit to France by Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, including his meeting with President Francois Mitterrand, see the France section of the 25 November Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Iraqi Transport Minister Departs After Visit

NC270917 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0840 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA) — 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd al-Rahim al-Asadi, Iraqi minister of transport and communications, and his accompanying delegation left Cairo this morning on their way back to Baghdad following a 4-day visit to Egypt. The visit was in response to an invitation from Engineer Sulayman Mutwalli, minister of transport, communications, and maritime transport. During the visit, Egyptian-Jordanian-Iraqi negotiations were held and the three countries agreed to provide customs, import, and financial facilities for the new maritime company which they will jointly establish. The agreement on the statutes of the company was also approved. Eng Sulayman Mutwalli saw the Iraqi minister off at the airport.

Chinese Radio, TV Ministry Delegation Arrives

NC270746 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA) — Ma Qingxiong, the Chinese vice minister of radio and television, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Cairo this morning on a 1-week visit to Egypt. During his stay, the Chinese guest is scheduled to sign a protocol on information cooperation between Egypt and China. This protocol will involve the exchange of cultural programs and expertise. He will also discuss the possibility of showing some Chinese television programs in Egypt.

'Responsible Source' Denies Cairo Explosion

NC261549 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) — A responsible source at the Interior Ministry has denied reports by some news agencies to the effect that an explosion occurred in one of Cairo's quarters this morning. The source described these reports as untrue.

Communique Issued on 25-26 Nov War Operations

JN261647 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Nov (INA) — Iraqi forward units have dealt effective artillery blows to Iranian positions in the East Basrah sector, killing three and destroying Iranian military hardware. Other forward units destroyed a tower built by the Iranian forces in the sector of operations east of the Tigris, an infantry position, and one observation post in the northern sector of the battlefield. Communique No 2,034 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command here this evening said that Mandali and Abu al-Khasib were subjected to Iranian shelling.

The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 2,034 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With excellent performance and high morale, our valiant Armed Forces continue their courageous activities in the sectors of oerations against the forces of the charlatan clique ruling Iran. The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Our forward units in the II Army Corps central sector, using artillery and mortar, pounded enemy positions and engineering works, destroying one observation post, one excavator, and four infantry positions whose occupants were killed.

2. Our forward formations in the III Army Corps sector east of Basrah dealt effective artillery blows to enemy weapons emplacements, mortar positions, and troop concentrations, scoring direct hits and inflicting losses in life and equipment. One of our units in the same sector opened fire on three enemy troops, wounding them.

3. One of our units in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris effectively pounded an enemy tower, destroying it. Our unit also destroyed one infantry position.

4. An enemy observation post was destroyed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

5. The criminal enemy shelled Mandali and Abu al-Khasib with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 November 1985

Trade Minister Leaves for Joint Meetings in UK

JN261207 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1148 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Nov (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, left for London today to lead the Iraqi side of the Iraqi-British joint committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation that will begin its fourth session later today. Speaking to INA, 'Ali said that the joint committee will discuss developments in economic, technical, and scientific relations, increasing bilateral trade, evaluating the results of implementing the joint minutes signed by the two countries in Baghdad last year, and the contribution of British companies in a number of Iraqi development projects.

The two Iraqi and British technical teams on the committee met in London yesterday to discuss the committee's minutes.

Trade Ministry Official Receives CSSR Minister

JN261346 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1340 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Nov (INA) — Dr Qubays Sa'id 'Abd al-Fattah, Iraqi Trade Ministry under secretary, met with Frantisek Langer, CSSR Ministry of Foreign Trade first deputy minister, here this morning. The two sides discussed bilateral economic and trade relations.

The CSSR official arrived in Baghdad last night on a visit to Iraq that will last several days.

U.S. Envoy Murphy Arrives in Amman 26 Nov

JN262114 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Amman — Richard Murphy, U.S. envoy to the Middle East, arrived in Amman this evening on a 3-day visit to Jordan during which he will meet with His Majesty King Husayn to brief him on the outcome of the U.S.-Soviet summit. He will also hold talks with senior Jordanian officials on the latest developments in the Middle East crisis. He was received at the airport by Foreign Ministry Secretary General Taysir Tuqan, the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, and the U.S. ambassador in Amman.

DFLP Accuses Authorities of Arrest Campaign

JN271220 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] issued a statement in Damascus today in which it accused the Jordanian authorities of launching a large-scale arrests campaign over the past few days against the democratic forces in general and the DFLP strugglers in particular. The statement said that the campaign included three members of the DFLP Central Committee, a number of PNC members, and more than 150 cadres comprising students, intellectuals, and trade unionists. The statement called on the Arab nationalist forces to intervene and stop these Jordanian measures.

Prince Hasan Receives Romanian Minister

JN261258 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Amman —His Highness Crown Prince Hasan received in his office this morning Ion Constantinescu, minister state secretary of the Romanian State Planning Committee and head of the Romanian side in the joint Jordanian-Romanian committee. Constantinescu conveyed the greetings and congratulations of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu to His Majesty King Husayn on his 50th birthday. He also conveyed the Romanian president's greetings to Prince Hasan.

During the meeting they discussed fields of bilateral economic, scientific, and cultural cooperation and ways to promote them. Planning Minister 'Abdallah al-Nusur and the Romanian ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Al-Husayni Regrets Recent Beirut Fighting

NC261323 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Remarks by Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni in response to questions by unidentified correspondent following his meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil on 26 November; place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Al-Husayni] We reviewed the latest security and political developments. I must express profound regret for what has happened in the past few days. The fighting that took place clearly confirms that security activity by independent groups or parties cannot save any faction or establish any genuine security on the ground. This is an established fact, proved by every action. No one party can impose its own will on other parties, nor can one party overcome any other party or render it powerless. We must realize that it is by exerting our common will and achieving agreement among us that we will achieve the desired goal — to save Lebanon from its continuing ordeal.

There is now a historic opportunity, which we did not have in the past. Fraternal Syria has placed all its potential at our disposal to unite our ranks and to achieve national reconciliation on a firm foundation that could enable us to restore normal conditions in Lebanon.

The road before us is difficult and full of obstacles, but it is the only road. It is the road toward liberating the land, consolidating the unity of the homeland, and carrying out the political reforms that will enable us to unite our ranks.

[Question] Mr Speaker, following your talks in Damascus and the discussions you have personally had with the Beirut leaders, do you see any solutions to the situation in West Beirut?

[Al-Husayni] The talks were very positive. Their aim was to ensure a cease-fire and end military manifestations and then establish a security body that could consolidate the situation and prevent a repetition of the fighting. I think that with intensive efforts and determination we will achieve this goal.

150 Syrian Observers Arrive in W. Beirut

NC270906 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Responsible sources have confirmed that, following consultations between Beirut and Damascus, 150 Syrian observers and their aides have arrived at the Beau Rivage Hotel in West Beirut, to strengthen the observers' team and to deal with the situation in West Beirut.

Statement Issued on Suicide Bombimg in South

NC261736 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance Front and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Organization in Lebanon issued the following statement this evening:

At 1120 today, heroine Hamziyah Mustafa al-Tahir, driving a dark blue Peugeot 504 loaded with 300 kg of highly explosive material, rammed a position held by agent Antoine Lahd's men at the Rimat farm on the Jazzin road. The car reached a point where some 50 Lahd men were assembled.

The position consists of five military tents surrounded by an artillery emplacement. A number of Israeli intelligence officers supervise the position. There were eight tracked vehicles, one armored vehicle, and two jeeps at the position.

The booby-trapped Peugeot was not intercepted at the checkpoint because it was familiar to them. The car had been seized and rigged in a way that completely fooled the enemy and his agents.

The suicidal operation destroyed the entire position and caused huge fires in the farm. About 20 ambulances were seen rushing to the scene of the explosion from the city of Jazzin. Immediately afterward, agent Lahd forces opened 106-mm artillery fire on neighboring areas.

50 Lahd Men Killed

NC261920 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Organization claimed responsibility this evening for the suicide operation carried out against the Rimat-Jazzin crossing, which is manned by Lahd militiamen.

According to a statement issued today, heroine Hamziyah Mustafa al-Tahir, a Syrian national, drove her Peugeot car laden with 300 kg of highly explosive material in the direction of the Rimat-Jazzin crossing. The car exploded near the position, killing 50 of agent Lahd's officers and personnel and destroying 8 tracked and armored vehicles and 2 jeeps.

Resistance Attacks Israeli Patrol, Wounds 4

NC261437 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance Front today announced that the Tanyus Shahin Forces detonated an explosive device as an Israeli motor patrol was passing near the town of 'Azur at 0400 today. In the explosion, an Israeli vehicle was destroyed and four of its passengers were wounded.

In a statement today, the front said that the same group blew up a radio station belonging to agent Lahd's militia in Khallat Khazin in Al-Rayhan 2 days ago.

Al-Shar' Receives Lebanese Official 26 Nov

JN261344 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Fu'ad al-Turk, secretary general of the Lebanese Foreign Ministry, in Damascus this afternoon. Talks dealt with the current situation in the Lebanese arena.

TISHRIN on Nationalists' Role in Beirut Incidents

JN270921 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Damascus, 27 Nov (SANA) — The newspaper *TISHRIN* says that when Syria came to an agreement with the Lebanese National Movement it was on the clear bases of the unity of Lebanon — territory and people — and internal national accord in order to put an end to the civil war and return fraternal Lebanon to its Arab community and its distinct cultural and economic role in the region.

In a comment today entitled "National Unity," the paper adds: It is easy to hold Israel and its agents responsible for the regrettable bloody incidents that swept Beirut in the past few days, but it requires courage, wisdom, and maturity to also admit the responsibility of the national rank in order to avoid such loopholes and mines in the future.

TISHRIN continues: National accord will remain the main objective and the substance of the persistent Syrian initiative and efforts. Syria will continue to exert its efforts in order to place Lebanon on the course of salvation by encouraging dialogue between the warring factions to achieve the desired mutual understanding and accord. The paper says: Israel, whose leaders have begun hinting at the danger posed by the strategic balance which Syria is preparing, has not yet laid down its arms. Israel will not stop manipulating its agents. Israel's interest lies in the perpetuation of the Lebanese conflict and the disintegration of that fraternal country so it can tell the world that what is happening in Lebanon can happen in any other Arab country and that Arab existence is very fragile and does not depend on solid, historical bases.

TISHRIN concludes: Now that security has finally and firmly been established in Beirut, the next few days should witness a new surge in the efforts to crystallize, sign, and implement the tripartite agreement. All resources must be rallied for this surge. Henceforth, there should be no frustrations, only firm steps toward the cherished solution.

AL-BA'TH Criticizes Hassan's Invitation to Peres

JN270750 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 27 Nov 85

[From the press review]

[Text] In its "*AL-BA'TH* Opinion" column and under the headline "Lest the Al-Sadat Phenomenon Be Repeated," the newspaper *AL-BA'TH* says: Everyone is well aware that the Arab summit resolutions emphatically rejected any direct negotiations with the Zionist enemy and forbade any Arab state or side to reach a separate solution with this enemy, which occupies the Palestinian territory and other parts of the Arab homeland. Only Anwar al-Sadat ignored these resolutions, challenged the Arab desire, and signed a separate peace treaty with the Zionist enemy. Hence, any Arab state or side that attempts to hold direct negotiations or sign a separate solution with it clearly and completely deviates from the Arab summit resolutions and flouts the desire of the Arabs, who rejected such an approach and emphasized the continuation of the struggle until usurped Arab rights are fully restored.

Last Monday's step by King Hassan II, who called on enemy Prime Minister Shim'on Peres to meet with him and discuss the pan-Arab cause, is at best not only a deviation from the successive Arab summit resolutions but also a new challenge to the Arab nation's will and the aspirations of the masses for liberation and repatriation. King Hassan's step did not come from a void. We can assert that this move came within full agreement and coordination among King Hassan, the leader of the policy of deviation [Yasir 'Arafat], and others who run after the U.S. solutions of capitulation.

A question must be asked: Who authorized King Hassan II to embark on this step, which in fact is not the first of its kind? Where did the king get his ideas? Who asked him to play such a role? If we exclude the leader of the deviationist line and his gang, as well as the Egyptian regime, nobody in our Arab homeland dares to take such a position or accept its consequences. However, we think that the man who sponsored the convocation of a Zionist conference is prepared to do more than that.

Therefore, we say that King Hassan's move is a very serious precedent and cannot be allowed to pass just like that. The Arab nation is required to take a frank, decisive stand against all those who deviate from the Arab summit resolutions so that Al-Sadat's phenomenon will not be repeated.

Pollard's Israeli 'Contact Man' To Be Recalled
TA270528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0506 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Text] The Israeli diplomat who was the contact man for Jonathan Pollard, who is suspected of having spied for Israel, will be recalled to Israel shortly. It is possible that two other diplomats will follow suit. The Israelis will return after the administration hinted that if they do not return voluntarily, they will be ordered to leave by the Americans.

Jerusalem is continuing to investigate the details of the affair; Israel will brief the United States only after all the testimonies are heard by the investigating judge. It is already possible to say that there were grotesque elements in this affair which testify to carelessness and sloppiness. There is complete coordination between Peres, Rabin, and Shamir on this issue, and there are no differences of opinion between them. The prime minister does not want to shake the intelligence establishment. It has been decided that the Foreign Ministry will deliver the official statements, and that there will be no leaks. The manner in which Israel will brief the Americans on its version of the affair has not yet been determined. A special envoy or a letter may be sent to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. For the time being, as said, an Israeli diplomat who was involved in the affair may be recalled to Israel shortly, and two others may follow him. For them the story is over.

Begin 'Never Heard' of Pollard; Report by Weekend
TA270957 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 27 Nov 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] Former Prime Minister Menahem Begin has said that he has never heard of Jonathan Pollard, who was charged in Washington with spying for Israel.

In reply to a question by *DAVAR*, Begin said: "I never heard about him before his arrest and before his name was published in the press." This was the first time Begin referred to the innuendos in several papers alleging that the go-ahead to activate the suspected spy was given during his term as prime minister.

Meanwhile, it has been learned that the intelligence community has actually completed the investigation of the affair, but that the report is currently being phrased and work is being done on how to present the facts that will be transmitted to the United States. A senior source told *DAVAR* that the investigation will probably be concluded by week's end.

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres plans to report to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee by the end of the week. In meetings he has held on the investigation with the vice prime minister and the defense minister, a clear guideline has been set that the affair should not be allowed to become "a political affair" and that an effort will be made to put an end to the attempt by various Knesset members and other political elements to seek political gains from it or to attack any party over the incident.

Another senior source disclosed that during consultations it was decided to reveal all the facts related to the affair "without any attempt to cover up, gloss over, or conceal facts." He added that "at issue is a subject of a security nature and definitely not a political event." At the same time, the political echelon is reportedly interested in preventing the affair from causing any damage to the Israeli intelligence community and to avoid any internal mudslinging within that community.

The questions which the investigators will be requested to address are:

— What intelligence community body activated the suspected spy?

— Who decided to activate him?

— Was the activating body obligated to report the incident to the prime minister?

— If it was, was there any report on the matter?

— If a report was prepared, did the prime minister approve the activation?

Beyond this, the investigators will be required to provide answers to some substantive questions from which lessons will have to be drawn about the future operations of the intelligence community, such as the "value" of the suspected spy as against the money that was reportedly paid. Was it possible to prevent his capture, and why did his activators not sense the danger that any link with him might cause?

Arens Returns From U.S., Comments on Spy Affair
TA261553 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] A short time ago Minister Arens returned to Israel following a brief visit to the United States. At Ben-Gurion Airport, Arens said that the report about the espionage case reached the U.S. President's plane during his return from the summit meeting in Geneva. The President's reaction was: Why are they doing this? Our correspondent 'Ido Tal reports on Minister Arens' remarks:

[Begin recording] [Arens] I think it is too early to tell at this point; one must wait for the dust to settle. In the United States I met Secretary of State Shultz. The meeting had been scheduled before this affair blew up. We are personal friends and he spent a long time with me on the same busy day of his return from Geneva. We discussed a great deal of issues and, I must say, he was as friendly and kind as ever. However, at the end of our talk, he told me: Mischa, I must discuss another issue with you. At this point he raised the issue very seriously.

[Tal] Was he worried?

[Arens] He was troubled by it. He told me how the report reached the President's plane that was returning from Geneva. The report arrived 2 hours before landing and was delivered to the President. Shultz told me that the President said: Why are they doing this? He simply could not understand it.

The best I could tell the secretary of state is that I was no less astonished than he was, and I simply proposed that we wait before we formulate any position or react, that we wait until we learn what did or did not happen in this case. I do not think we have succeeded yet in calming the situation. We must uncover the facts, which are unknown to me, and only when we learn what did or did not happen in this case should we get down to letting the dust settle and ironing things out.

I did not walk down Fifth Avenue and ask people in the street what they thought, but this affair must have aroused concern. Of course, there is a down-to-earth sector of the population that says: We know what intelligence is all about; everybody spies on everybody else, even among friends. However, we should not delude ourselves: We have a problem here and it is important that we solve it. [end recording]

Moroccan Jewish Leader Brings Peres Hassan Message

TA261911 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The head of the Moroccan Jewish community, Mr David 'Amar, has recently visited Israel and transmitted to Prime Minister Shim'on Peres a personal message from King Hassan II.

Mr Peres has met with the head of the Alignment's Knesset faction, Rafi Edri, on the issue of contacts with Morocco.

Sources Say Hassan-Peres Meeting 'Still Possible'

TA271040 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1028 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Sources in the Labor Party who are close to Prime Minister Shim'on Peres say that despite the remarks made by Morocco's King Hassan yesterday it is still possible that the two will meet. King Hassan tried to appease Arab leaders, but we believe he will agree to a public meeting with Shim'on Peres perhaps even this year, said one of them to the AP correspondent. Another said that Israel is interested in holding talks with King Hassan because this can help bring about direct negotiations with Jordan's King Husayn.

PM's Office Issues 'No Comment' to Revocation

TA271109 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
27 Nov 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by Arnon Yafe, Asher Shiloni, and Dalya Shehori]

[Excerpt] The Prime Minister's Office yesterday issued a "no comment" in reaction to King Hassan's latest remarks. Political sources expressed their opinion that Hassan had first launched a "trial balloon" and that in light of the unfavorable reaction toward him in the Arab world, decided to retract his statements. The sources pointed out that at the moment it is difficult to decide whether this was a tactical withdrawal or whether the king truly rescinded his remarks.

The sources added that in fact the monarch's statements were received with surprise in Jerusalem both times: first, 2 days ago, when he expressed readiness to meet with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres in Morocco if he brings "serious proposals," and the second time when he announced that he had not met with Peres, and that if he (Peres) has any proposals to raise, he should put them in an envelope and send them to the UN secretary general.

The first surprise, according to the sources, was pleasant. Jerusalem had no idea that King Hassan was going to make a public announcement about the clandestine meetings he has held with Peres and his readiness to host him in Morocco for talks on "serious" political proposals.

Morning Editorials on Peres-Hassan Exchanges

TA270755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0430 GMT 27 Nov 85

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *THE JERUSALEM POST* writes that the fact the Moroccan king has made himself look rather foolish is his own affair, but that he has blocked another start towards peace will be difficult to forgive.

HA'ARETZ writes that Shim'on Peres is entitled to ignore the derisive tone which was noted in some of King Hassan's remarks and forgive the affront to him. He can say that he is willing to go anywhere to advance the cause of peace. It seems, however, that Peres should not have overlooked this slight to his honor, in view of the fact that King Hassan has again declared in a public speech yesterday that he rejects direct contact with the Israeli prime minister.

HATZOFE says that the bottom line of the affair was that we celebrated Shim'on Peres' upcoming trip to Morocco too early. We are also hanging too many hopes on Jordan's King Husayn. Now Morocco's King Hassan is saying that he does not want to see Peres, and the Jordanian king is preparing for a visit to Damascus rather than Jerusalem.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that beyond the disappointment caused by the change in King Hassan's position, we must note that in any event the prime minister could not have accepted the Moroccan king's demands. Could Peres really say to the king that he has serious proposals? Hassan, after all, was not awaiting verbiage, a mere expression of willingness to reach peace, etcetera, but rather real proposals. He himself brought up the Fes summit resolutions as a basis, even though he did not rule out other proposals. It is clear that he did not want to speak about formal proposals, but about practical things — that is, territories in exchange for peace. Mr Peres does not have the authority to discuss this as long as his hands are tied by the national unity government guidelines.

Egypt's Qandil Arrives; No Ra's al-Burqa' Report
TA270541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] The Egyptian minister of petroleum and mineral resources has arrived in Israel without a report on the Ra's al-Burqa' murder affair in hand. He told correspondents at Ben-Gurion Airport upon his arrival as the guest of Emergy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal that he did not bring this report with him. Minister Shahal, who received the Egyptian minister at the airport, called Qandil a personal friend and a friend of Israel. Our correspondent Dan Eshel reports from the airport:

[Begin recording] [Eshel] The Egyptian minister of petroleum and mineral resources yesterday said he has a letter from the Egyptian president to the Israeli prime minister. I asked him whether he brought the report on the Ra's al-Burqa' affair:

[Qandil — in English] Well, I think something about the matter is included in the letter of President Mubarak to Prime Minister Peres, but the whole matter is in front of the court now and we cannot interfere in the business of the court in Egypt; it's very difficult.

[Unidentified correspondent — in English] So there is no report yet? There is no thorough report at this point?

[Qandil] No.

[Eshel — translates the above and continues] Minister Qandil said he met with President Mubarak yesterday morning on the Ra's al-Burqa' affair:

[Qandil — in English] I met today with President Mubarak in the morning, and he directed me to give his condolences to the families of the victims in this tragic thing that happened in Ra's al-Burqa' in the Sinai. [end recording]

Egypt's Lutfi Interviewed on Bilateral Issues
TA261125 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
26 Nov 85 p 13

[Report on interview with Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi by Arab affairs correspondent Shefi Gabay, in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] Sources associated with the new Egyptian prime minister, Dr 'Ali Lutfi, say that for the moment he is not inclined to converse with the media. Hundreds of requests by journalists from all over the world have already piled up on his aide's desk. These include requests from Arab reporters to interview him, but he claims the time has not yet come to talk to correspondents, and that all his time is currently devoted to work.

When I asked to meet with him, he expressed readiness to grant his first inerview to none other than an Israeli reporter. The first question had to do with the Ra's al-Burqa' murder, and he replied: I would like to talk to the people in Israel in order to tell them that the Egyptian people love peace. The act committed by the soldier in Ra's al-Burqa' was an isolated case. He will be court-martialed and fully punished. Crimes like this happen everywhere, even here in Egypt.

Question: Still, the feeling among the people here is that peace with Egypt has lost its momentum.

Dr Lutfi: We did not sign the peace treaty in order to abrogate it, but to fill it with content. The two sides must continue their efforts to attract all the Arab countries to sign similar agreements with Israel and put an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict once and for all. We have ceased to be enemies, but certain problems still remain and I hope that your people will encourage your government to resolve these problems so we can forge ties in every sphere.

Question: People in Israel believe that Egypt has "adopted" 'Arafat, and they have a lot of reservations about this.

Dr Lutfi: I first met 'Arafat during his last visit to Cairo. My personal impression is that he is a moderate politician, not a terrorist, and that he opposes all forms of terrorism outside the conquered territories. If you ask me why acts of violence inside the conquered territories, my answer is clear. These areas were conqueered in June 1967. Eighteen years have passed since then. These children have grown up in the territories and are full-fledged residents now. This is a new generation that grew up under the shadow of the conquest, which it opposes. I presume that opposition to any conquest is anchored in UN resolutions. It is not terrorism. 'Arafat and I condemn terrorism of any type because violence breeds violence, but opposition inside the territories is a problem over which 'Arafat has no control.

Question: Why did you have to suspend the Tabah talks so demonstratively?

The prime minister: In 1979 we signed the peace treaty that says that you undertake to withdraw from all Egyptian territory. You have honored the timetable admirably. All of a sudden you raised the conflict over a small area of 800 square meters. It is a small area, but for us it is a matter of principle. I do not believe there is any country in the world that would be prepared to give up part of its land. We were in the midst of the talks when the IDF raided the PLO headquarters in Tunisia. It was only natural for us to adopt the decision to suspend the talks at the time. Now we have contacted Israel and the talks will resume.

Question: Why have trade, culture, and tourism ties been frozen?

Dr Lutfi: This is a typical Israeli question, which indeed expresses thoughts people in Israel have about us. When we signed the peace accords, we did this wholeheartedly. I firmly reject the Israeli theory that Egypt wants to retrieve all its land and then sever its relations with Israel. As finance minister under Al-Sadat, I looked forward to fostering trade and cultural ties with Israel, but unfortunately you did not give Egypt the chance to do this. First came the invasion of Lebanon, then the problem of Tabah cropped up, and the attempts to reach a solution to the heart of the Middle East conflict — by which I mean the Palestinian problem — were frozen.

Question: Why are you turning down proposals for direct meetings with Israeli leaders?

Dr Lutfi: President Mubarak has said quite often that a meeting with Peres or bringing our ambassador back to Tel Aviv are connected with the solution of the outstanding bilateral problems. Why is Israel dragging its feet in solving the problems and pressuring us to hold meetings? It is true that Israel has withdrawn from Lebanon, but where is the solution to Tabah or the solution to the heart of the conflict? Israel has thus far rejected such proposals as an international conference or talks with a Jordanian-Palestnian delegation. I would like you to show good intentions regarding peace.

As for the Egyptian-Jordanian relations, the prime minister said: The relations are very close. We talk and coordinate things among us, such as, for example, the peace process with you. We have adopted, to give but one example, the Jordanian idea for a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that will launch a dialogue with the Americans as a preparatory step toward talks with Israel. The purpose is to achieve a just and comprehensive peace. I am convinced that if the Americans and Israelis sit around the negotiating table with that delegation, progress could be made. Neither you nor the Americans have to accept anything that conflicts with your principles, and no one will force you to sign any document that you do not like. But I regret that both the Americans and the Israelis have refused to sit down together with the delegation. I think peace is stronger than the names of the delegates, in terms of who is a member of the PLO or who is not. I believe this is a golden opportunity to realize peace because no negotiations will be possible without the participation of the Palestinians. Israel must conduct negotiations with all the parties involved in the conflict, whether by way of an international umbrella or through the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

POST Reports Egypt Tabah Claim Based on Forged Map

TA260929 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Nov 85 pp 1, 2

["Special" report from London by Jon Kimche]

[Text] London — The Egyptian claim to Tabah is based on a falsified 1915 map, newly discovered reports and maps have established.

During departmental house-cleaning at a secret Ministry of Defence establishment near here, the original field reports and maps of the two surveys that form the basis of Egypt's Tabah claim — the Sinai Survey of 1910/12 and the South Palestine Survey of 1913/14 — were found, 60 years after being "mislaid."

From these two surveys, T.E. Lawrence and S.F. Newcombe produced the map, published in 1915 by the War Office, that has become the central source of evidence for the Egyptian claim with regard to the boundary at Tabah, superseding the original mapping and description provided by the Turco-Egyptian Boundary Commission of 1906.

By comparing the original field drawings of the two surveys with the 1915 map supposedly based upon them, it becomes evident that the boundary drawn on the 1915 map was a calculated forgery. The newly discovered original drawings and notes show that the Tabah region was not surveyed by either the Egyptian or the South Palestine expeditions. The Egyptian survey stopped short some 65 kilometres north of Tabah. Neither expedition was allowed by the Turks to survey or enter the region, although Tabah was claimed to be Egyptian territory.

These surveys were initiated — and carried out — by the directorate of Military Operations at the British War Office in London. Newcombe, an experienced geographer, intelligence officer and Arabist, was in charge of both surveys, of the operations in the field and of the subsequent "correcting and editing" of the maps produced.

These original maps, drawn with artistic care by the best intelligence-geographers the British could muster, carry the signatures of Lawrence, Leonard Wooley and others. Lawrence, while working on the surveys, managed to get into Al-'Aqabah and made a clandestine visit to the island opposite Tabah for only a few hours under difficult conditions. He later drew a mapping sketch of the area from memory, identified as "Sketch 23." But this was a very elementary effort with glaring errors. Most significantly, he made no attempt to show the position of the boundary between what was then Egypt and Ottoman Palestine.

In making the surveys, the British had no motive other than to produce a meticulously accurate map of the Sinai Peninsula. By the time Lawrence came to draw up the final 1915 map, however, the British were at war with Turkey. The British — and the Egyptians — had no access to the Sinai Peninsula, as the Turks were in total occupation.

When Lawrence drew up the 1915 map, he had no survey, no original drawings of the Tabah area and no indication of the position of the boundary to work from. Yet he managed to improve the British geographical position opposite Tabah by carrying out a significant alteration of the boundary at Tabah.

The completed 1915 map — drawn by Lawrence and edited by Newcombe — showed, for the first time, a boundary post just where the British wanted it, and a new boundary placed in relation to Al-'Aqabah — again just where the British wanted it.

As it happened, this map became established as the mother of all Sinai maps, British, Egyptian, French, German, Russian and much later also Israeli. It came with such impressive credentials that it was never questioned until very recently.

The two surveys on which the map was based carried such weighty professional credentials that their reading of the boundary — as supposedly reflected on the 1915 map — was generally accepted as more professionally accurate than the earlier 1906 survey which laid down the original and agreed boundary terminal west of the Granite Rock on the shore of Tabah. The Egyptians reinforced their claim with stress on Boundary Post 91, shown to be at the terminal point on the 1915 map, 1 km east of Bi'r Tabah.

Prior to the discovery of this latest batch of original drawings and notes and, particularly Newcombe's and Lawrence's private

letters concerning the survey and the 1915 map, it was claimed even by those who did not accept the new boundary that it was probably the result of a genuine error by Newcombe on the basis of erroneous field reports.

But there were no field reports and therefore no room for error, only for invention and falsification. Newcombe and Lawrence — who actually drew the map — were highly professional cartographers. They had available to them, apart from their own incomplete Sinai and South Palestine Surveys, earlier maps prepared by their own department, the Geographical Section of the General Staff of the British War Office, produced in 1906, 1907 and 1913. They also had access to the 1912 Admiralty Chart of the Gulf of Aqaba which was based on an independent Royal Navy Survey which included the Tabah region and the Tabah end of the boundary. But most significantly, all the papers, notes and maps of the 1906 survey and demarcation of the boundary held by the Survey of Egypt were accessible to Lawrence, for he was in charge of liaison between the War Office and the Survey of Egypt at the time when he was drawing the map.

All these original maps, notes and surveys confirmed the terminal position of the boundary close to the well and the Doum Palms on the shore at Tabah, with added precision of the coordinates of longitude and latitude established in the 1906 demarcation of the boundary.

Another item of singular evidence has also come to light which must have been available to Newcombe. A very large-scale and sharp map of the boundary in Arabic, which was attached to the agreement of October 1 1906, printed in Cairo in 1906 and registered in the official archives on 23 October 1906, has also become available. This most authoritative map clearly shows the boundary terminal at Tabah as agreed in the joint Egyptian-Turkish demarcation, in the precise terms of longitude and latitude of the demarcation: some 120 metres west of the Granite Rock on the shore at Tabah, about 1 km west of the position claimed by Egypt and shown on the Newcombe-Lawrence map.

All this evidence was available to Newcombe and Lawrence — just as it is now available to the authorities in Cairo. Newcombe and Lawrence chose to ignore it. Under these conditions and the non-existing surveys on which the 1915 map was supposed to be based, the drawing of the new boundary was patently a forgery.

This was not an altogether unprecedented practice in British imperial map-making. It was often used at that time on the Indian frontier and in Africa to regain positions lost by diplomats and politicians, strategic hills in the one instance, gold and diamond mines in the other.

Tabah was just one more example. But neither Newcombe nor Lawrence was a tyro when it came to tampering with maps. They were not such beginners as to confine their adjustments to the boundary alone, they had to muddle the whole presentation of the map and they did this by moving (on the map) the 35 degree meridian.

In all major previous surveys, including those of Kitchener, Mackinder and Palmer, the meridian was mapped as passing 1 km west of Al-'Aqabah. Suddenly in the 1915 map, it moved 1 km to the east and passed through Al-'Aqabah. This of course threw all the coordinates carefully fixed during the 1906 demarcation into confusion. Transferred to the Newcombe-Lawrence map, the longitudes and latitudes of 1906 became nonsense.

Fortunately, we have a vivid account by Lawrence's senior colleague — the Head of the Survey of Egypt, Sir Ernest Dowson — of how Lawrence worked. His criterion was to "meet the burning needs of the moment." With his preoccupation with the coming Arab revolt and Kitchener's concern with the Turkish position in Al-'Aqabah, the burning need was not to worry too much about the old realities of the boundary, but rather to position it where "it was most desirable."

The forged map on which the Egyptians base their Tabah claim was designed to meet a British imperial desire, not an Egyptian desire. But it is Egypt which is now encumbered with Lawrence's forged 1915 effort and with the dubious boundary post which first made its appearance on this most suspect of maps.

Transport Minister Extends Condolences to Egypt

TA261755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The transportation minister has called on his Egyptian counterpart to jointly appeal to the IATA [International Air Transport Association] to convene an emergency session to discuss fighting terrorism in the airways. Minister Corfu sent a condolence telegram to his Egyptian counterpart for the casualties inflicted on board the Egyptian airliner in Malta.

Arab Mayor, Town Council Appointed in Nabulus

TA261535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1450 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The Civilian Administration in Judaea and Samaria today appointed Zafir al-Masri, head of the Chamber of Commerce in Nabulus, as the town's mayor, and the members of the Chamber of Commerce as the town's council members. Al-Masri will replace the Israeli mayor who headed the Nabulus municipality for the past 3 years. This is reported by our correspondent Arye Gus.

The Bassam al-Shak'ah-led Nabulus municipality was dismissed in 1982 due to its refusal to cooperate with the Civilian Administration. The head of the Civilian Administration in Judaea and Samaria, Efrayim Sene, said in a ceremony held in his office in Bet El that the decision to appoint Zafir al-Masri is a result of a policy in principle which works on behalf of the local population, and of the recognition that it is in the town's interest to be run by its residents. The Civilian Administration, Sene said, is aware of the support which Al-Masri's initiative has gained in Nabulus. In answer to a question by our correspondent Arye Gus, Efrayim Sene said that the appointment was made with the agreement of the prime minister and defense minister, but the appointment has only local significance, without any link to the political process.

Zafir al-Masri told our correspondent that he did not need Jordan's agreement to his appointment, and that the town's residents support him. Our correspondent says that the Civilian Administration and the appointed town council will set up a working team for a transitional period and Zafir al-Masri will assume his post as soon as possible. In the meantime, our correspondent says, there is no plan to appoint Arab mayors in other Judaea and Samaria towns.

Jordan Bans Political Speeches in West Bank
JN261456 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic
22 Nov 85 p 1

[Text] West Bank — The Jordanian Government has sent a circular to all preachers in West Bank mosques preventing them from delivering political speeches. In accordance with the circular, every preacher will sign a pledge not to deliver political speeches or to politicize religion.

A number of scholars expressed dissatisfaction over this decision, which puts new restrictions on their right to practice their work. The circular also does not define politicizing religion or politices, which can be separated from the issues of people in the occupied territory. The scholars asserted that any subject related to the citizens cannot be separated from politics because it is related to their future, their life, and their ability to survive and remain steadfast.

Husayn Pressuring PLO Through West Bank Policies
TA241510 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
24 Nov 85 p 6

[Commentary by Pinhas 'Inbari: "Turning Off the Royal Faucets"]

[Text] Last week, far away from the media lights, King Husayn received three important figures from the territories who had come to hear his speech to the parliament: Rashad al-Shawwa from Gaza, Anwar al-Khatib from East Jerusalem, and Hikmat al-Masri from Nabulus. Superficially speaking, there is nothing new in meetings of this type, since King Husayn feels responsibility for the fate of the West Bank. However, in the new political conditions, there certainly is something new in this meeting.

Contrary to normal procedure, all three were received together in the king's court, like some sort of delegation that had not consulted together prior to going to Amman, but the meeting in the king's office took on this post factum significance. As Jordan sees it, each of the three represents a certain area of the territories and is considered to be the most senior pro-Jordanian in his area. Rashad al-Shawwa, the dismissed mayor of Gaza, acts as a sort of Jordanian consul in the Gaza Strip and routinely deals with Jordanian affairs. To this day Anwar al-Khatib is the Jordanian governor of the Jerusalem District, and it is now reported that the appointment is for his lifetime. Hikmat al-Masri is the symbol of Jordan, with capital letters, in Nabulus. He was formerly the speaker of the Jordanian Parliament and is now the deputy president of the Senate.

Anwar al-Khatib can also be considered to be the representative of the Hebron area, because he comes from a Hebron family and has marital connections with the Al-Ja'bari family. It was not possible to get specific details of the talk with the king, but what has filtered through indicates that the king devoted most of what he said to bitter complaints about the PLO and the difficulties it is posing to the political process. The king gave his version of the London incident in which the PLO representative refused to sign a document that had been agreed on in advance, and noted the contradictory statements by PLO leaders, which are making difficulties for a joint political move with Jordan. "It is impossible to make progress," King Husayn grated this sentence, "until the PLO puts its house in order and takes up an absolute stand in favor of the political process."

The king had serious complaints about Israel, too. "If I had been given suitable guarantees by Israel, I would not need such broad Arab backing," he said. The king left his audience feeling pessimistic. He does not have unequivocal PLO backing and he sees his entry into political negotiations with Israel as a dangerous adventure.

Rashad al-Shawwa had other good reasons to return from Jordan with a feeling of depression. His first visit to Amman, after 2 and 1/2 years of an Israeli ban on traveling, did not produce good fruit. Agriculture in the Gaza Strip is in a very serious situation. Al-Shawwa had hoped he would succeed in obtaining Jordanian and Palestinian aid in solving the problems of marketing the agricultural produce, but he returned empty-handed.

It is not only agriculture in the Gaza Strip that is in this situation; the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation is also in great danger because of the heavy burden of debts weighing down on it. A month has passed since the corporation sent desperate distress signals to Jordan, but there is nobody to come to its rescue. The corporation has the impression that Jordan is indifferent and perhaps it has even accepted the fact that in the end the corporation will fall into Israeli hands. The chairman of the board of directors, Anwar Nusaybah, is putting off his trip to Amman again and again for the simple reason that the 'no' he hears with his own ears could be the final one. Even his sensational proposal, to link up the West Bank to the East Bank's electricity grid by using his corporation, has not yet gained fitting attention from Jordan and, according to reports, of which it is difficult to obtain confirmation, Jordan has even given a negative answer. This does not mean the proposal has been rejected, but Nusaybah may, deep in his heart, fear that if Jordan does decide to respond positively, it will not be to save the Palestinian corporation. Jordan will suggest to Israel that a Jordanian company supply the West Bank with electrical current.

One could say that Jordan's cash box is simply empty and it is incapable of supplying the needs of the territories, yet this is only half the truth. Jordan is still supplying those it wants to help with quite considerable support. Last week's two great disappointments, that of the Gaza Strip farmers and that of the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation, are no coincidence and are not only linked to Jordan's empty coffers. These two disappointments are also connected with the gloomy conversation the king held with the leaders of his supporters in the territories.

It is difficult to say that the chapter of the "Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue" is over and a new era is now beginning, but a Jordanian flexing of muscles toward the PLO can certainly be felt. Those currently suffering from it in the meantime are the inhabitants of the territories. The agricultural aid to Gaza and the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation share a common denominator: Previously this aid was not provided by Jordan alone, but together with the PLO, within the framework of the joint committee. To some extent the PLO also had preferential status because of its influence within the electric corporation and the contracts it managed to make for the Gaza Strip farmers in the Arab world and the Eastern Bloc. Now, with the cooling in Jordanian-PLO relations, Jordan has to demonstrate to the territories who is stronger and whom they should support in the dispute with the PLO.

A dispute between the supporters of Jordan and the supporters of the PLO is not something new in the territories, but as long as there was understanding between Husayn and 'Arafat, they did not take these disputes into account when making decisions about the scale of priorities of the aid to the territories. In those days the electric corporation obtained funds without too much trouble, although the internal struggles were no less severe than they are today. But now Jordan is not prepared to help the corporation, when the supporters of Jordan in the board of directors, who are the mayors of Bethlehem, Bayt Jala, Bayt Sahur, and Jericho, have been forced to resign because of the growing influence of the PLO supporters. Jordan currently prefers the internal power struggles when it comes to considering how to parcel out the aid to the territories. This is how Jordan's promise to Syria to freeze the Husayn-'Arafat agreement is being translated into everyday policy in the territories.

In contrast to the difficulties in financing the electric corporation and agriculture in Gaza, Jordan has found a budget to finance one development project, the irrigation program for the village of Dayr al-Ghusun, in the Tulkarm District. It is true that this is a matter of small change: The entire program cost only 120,000 dinars, of which Jordan only paid a third. But what is special about the modest irrigation project for Dayr al-Ghusun is that it is not the PLO that is Jordan's partner in it, but Israel and the United States: The second third was paid by Israel and the other third was paid by the U.S. aid organization, the Catholic Development Fund. That is to say, in addition to freezing the agreement with 'Arafat, Jordan has gone back to the period prior to the establishment of the joint committee with the PLO, to the days when Israel and Jordan together financed the development of the territories, and this time under U.S. "aegis," as it were.

Is Jordan really going back to the period that preceded the dialogue with the PLO? The answer is almost certainly negative. Jordan will not easily give up its alliance with the PLO, and it is hard to believe that in the end it will exchange 'Arafat's aegis for a political process under the aegis of Al-Asad. In the conversation with the figures from the territories, Husayn did not say he would present 'Arafat with an ultimatum. This is to say he is putting pressure on him, but not threatening a rift. The negative answers given to Gaza and Jerusalem are not final. Neither is Dayr al-Ghusun, Nabulus, or Hebron, and it would be dangerous to draw far-reaching conclusions from the Israeli-Jordanian cooperation in the village.

Jordan is flexing muscles and demonstrating its strength in an attempt to put pressure on the PLO to cooperate more seriously. Only if, even after all the pressure, the PLO finally disappoints Husayn, will the king have to make a genuine decision.

Peres on Conditions With International Forum

TA261212 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Excerpt of Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' address to Bat Yam high school students on 26 November, in Bat Yam — recorded]

[Text] We decided that an international forum will be in attendance on the opening night of the peace talks, but under the following conditions: That forum will not be allowed to interfere in the negotiations; it will not be allowed to dictate any condition to either us or the Jordanians. Furthermore, if we and the Jordanians reach an agreement, the international forum will not be able to abrogate it. In other words, the international forum will not be able and will not be allowed to be a substitute for direct negotiations between us and the Jordanians.

Now, the question has arisen as to what comprises the international forum. The Jordanians suggested that this will be the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, that is: the United States, the Soviet Union, the PRC, France, and Britain. Israel is saying: Wait a minute; anyone who wants to participate on the occasion of opening the negotiations between us and Jordan must have diplomatic relations with Israel. As long as the Soviet Union has no such relations, we will not accept this. It makes no difference that the Soviet Union is large and we are small.

Cabinet Fails To Adopt Economic Resolutions 27 Nov

TA271117 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] The Cabinet failed to adopt any economic resolutions during today's meeting. The session lasted approximately 3 hours and the Treasury representatives completed their review of next year's budget. The debate will end next week.

During the session, the education minister firmly rejected a proposal raised by Prof Mikha'el Bruno that more teachers be dismissed. Our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar reports that Minister Navon explained that further dismissals will severely harm the educational system because thousands of teachers have already been dismissed this year. He noted that the teachers have agreed to put off payment of their increments, thus saving the Treasury tens of millions of shekels in this year's budget.

Information Ministers Conference Holds Final Session

Condemns Egyptian Hijacking

NC251809 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1704 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — The conference of African information ministers in Cairo has condemned international terrorism and its latest manifestation, the hijacking of an Egyptian airliner to Valletta airport 2 days ago.

At their final session today the information ministers observed a minute of silence in honor of the innocent martyrs from Egypt and other countries who fell victim to terrorism.

At the beginning of the meeting, Safwat al-Sharif, Egyptian minister of information and chairman of the conference, read the official Egyptian statement on the incident and on the successful storming of the aircraft and rescue of the hostages by Egyptian shock troops.

At the end of its closing session, which is still in progress, the conference will adopt its recommendations.

Issues Final Recommendations

NC250742 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2005 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — In its first extraordinary session in Cairo, the conference of African information ministers called upon the international community to take decisive measures to combat all forms of terrorism and to stop the perpetrators. It appealed to all upright journalists to condemn these disgraceful acts.

In its final recommendations issued this evening, the conference announced its full support of the struggle of the Palestinian people for the restoration of their legitimate rights under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

The conference also strongly condemned Israel's terrorist attacks on the Palestinian people in their various gathering places.

Touching on the Lebanese issue, the conference called on all warring Lebanese factions to resume negotiations with a view to reaching a final solution to Lebanon's bloody 10-year struggle. It called upon Israel to withdraw its forces and those cooperating with them from all Lebanese territory.

The conference of African information ministers again condemned the racist regime in South Africa. It criticized the media blackout imposed by the racist regime, which aims at concealing the regime's criminal acts against the African citizens in South Africa.

On African cooperation with UNESCO, the conference praised the international organization's loyal efforts to promote African media and the OAU's media apparatus. It called upon all member-states to support UNESCO's noble aims in the service of culture, education, and information. It appealed again to the United States to return to UNESCO, since it is an international organization.

With regard to the African news agencies, the conference asked the African media in general, and African news agencies in particular, to show interest in the heroic struggle of the South African and Namibian people for peace. It also requested that OAU member-states authorize correspondents in their press agencies to work in the confrontation states.

At the end of the session Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif, in his capacity as chairman of the conference, expressed his gratitude to President Husni Mubarak for receiving the participants and addressing the opening session. He also thanked the members for their efforts to ensure the success of the conference.

Safwat al-Sharif directed a message to Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, chairman of the current OAU session. He expressed the conference's support for and solidarity with the Senegalese president in view of his total commitment to realizing the aims of the OAU, as well as to the supreme African interest.

In his reply to Safwat al-Sharif's speech, Senegalese Information Minister Djibo Ka thanked President Mubarak and the Egyptian people for their hospitality and the excellent facilities provided in order to ensure the success of the conference. He also spoke of Egypt's role in establishing the OAU and the Nonaligned Movement's news agency, as well as its efforts to create a new African information order.

ECOWAS Council of Ministers Session Opens 25 Nov

AB262250 Paris AFP in French 1142 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Lome, 26 Nov (AFP) — The 18th ECOWAS council of ministers opened in Lome on Monday in the presence of 15 of the 16 member-states. Only Liberia was absent at the opening session. First of all, the council of ministers elected its new chairman, who is the Nigerian minister of planning, Dr S. P. Okongwu.

LIBYA

Egypt Warned To Avoid Aggression Against Libya

LD262018 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Tripoli, 26 Nov (JANA) — A JANA commentator says that the massacre that took place at Luqa airport in Valletta, Malta as a result of the storming of the hijacked airliner by Egyptian special forces was an abominable crime in which scores of innocent lives were lost.

The commentator said that Egyptian Minister of Defense 'Abu Ghazalah, who was responsible for planning this ugly crime, is now trying to evade responsibility for the massacre and lay the blame on President Mubarak.

The commentator warns the pawns of the Egyptian regime that they will suffer a terrible defeat if they play with fire and attempt any act of aggression against the Libyan Arab people. He adds that the revelations of *THE WASHINGTON POST* and the incident in Malta indicate that U.S. orders aimed against the Libyan Arab people are being carried out.

The JANA commentator concludes by stressing that the Egyptian people and the Egyptian Army will stand shoulder to shoulder with the Libyan people, that if there is a war it will end with the overthrow of the treasonous pawns in Egypt, and that Mubarak must bear the responsibility for any foolhardy act he may commit.

Reagan Congratulations to Egypt on Hijack Decried

LD261618 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has congratulated his intelligence officer in the vanquished capital over the massacre committed by his regime against the passengers of the hijacked Egyptian airliner at Valletta, which ended in a bloodbath the day before yesterday.

This congratulation has truly astounded us and prompted us to come up with a number of persistent questions, foremost of which is: Why do these people feel no shame in exchanging congratulations at a time when they have committed such human carnage? Why do they not feel ashamed to describe the carnage, in which about 60 people were killed, as an act contributing to saving the world from terrorism?

The true description of the Valletta carnage would be purging the world of mankind. Reagan, Mubarak, and their likes have affirmed by their stands that they do not belong to the human race and that they are professional assassins whose aim is to annihilate the human race.

The plane massacre has reaffirmed that Mubarak is no more than an officer in the U.S. CIA who receives his orders directly from his master, Reagan, and that Egypt has become fully pledged to the American Administration, the only concern of which is to fight the human race. Its terrorist record in various parts of the world provides the best proof of this.

We only reaffirm that those who exchange congratulations over such a situation are nothing but bloodthirsty people and terrorists whose only concern is to kill and annihilate the entire human race.

Spokesman in Italy Condemns Egyptian Hijacking

AU270850 Rome ANSA in English 0829 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, November 27 — Libya condemns "both acts of terrorism" which occurred at the airport in Malta, according to a spokesman from the Libyan Jamahiriyah Embassy here on Tuesday. "The first terrorist act", the spokesman said, "was the hijacking of the airliner and the second terrorist attack the Egyptian military intervention".

The Libyan spokesman also denied reports, from Egyptian sources, that the Libyan ambassador to Malta "went on board" the airliner to negotiate with the terrorists. The Libyan (?position) is that the (?Libyan) representative went to the control tower, together with ambassadors from other nations but "left when he found himself with colleagues from countries — Israel, Egypt, United States — with whom we do not have diplomatic relations".

Regarding Egyptian and American "accusations and insinuations" that Libya was responsible for the hijacking, the spokesman in Rome "categorically denied" any responsibility. He went on to say that "the situation in (?Egypt) is explosive. The regime increasingly needs to use police action and in these conditions it is clear that they are trying to put the blame on others and called into question the Jamahiriyah (Libya) [no closing quotation marks as received].

The Libyan spokesman ended by warning Egypt that "we are ready to respond to any initiative against our country".

Egyptians Said Angry With Handling of Hijacking

LD270934 Tripoli JANA in English 0836 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Egyptian capital, Rabi Awal 14, Nov.27 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The bloody method of the Egyptian authorities used to deal with the hijacking of the Egyptian airliner has raised the anger of the Egyptian masses at the Egyptian regime.

Apart from the demand the 'Wafd' opposition party made for the resignation of Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, the Egyptian Socialist Labour opposition party's newspaper accused the Egyptian authorities of disregarding the Egyptian citizens' feelings.

The newspaper explained that while the citizens were anxious to follow the aeroplane's news on Egyptian T.V., the TV was showing a film about the visit the Egyptian president made to the Nile Delta area.

AL-SHA'B daily demanded an enquiry into the raid on the plane. It pointed out that the aeroplane's captain stated that the storming operation was bad and unsuccessful.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Interviewed on Current Issues

LD262256 Paris International Service in French 1300 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Interview with Morocco's King Hassan II presented by unidentified moderator, with French journalists Francoise Chipaud of *LE MONDE*, Julia Picassier of *LA CROIX*, Sophie Jacquin of *LE MATIN*, Andre Potard of *L'EXPRESS*, Christian Bosquet of French Television Channel One, Ralph Pinto of Radio France, and Radio Rabat correspondent Ferida Moha; 24 November in Rabat at Radio France's Third World Press Club; voices of individual questioners not distinguishable — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Your Majesty, among the changes that have occurred, there is the paradox in the Sahara. On the one hand, you have considerably strengthened your military position — everyone agrees with this — but on the other you have suffered a series of diplomatic setbacks. How would you explain this paradox and what do you think about getting out of it?

[Hassan II] As a matter of fact there is no paradox, in the sense that territory and diplomacy are two things that complement each other. Naturally one can always begin with diplomacy and say that territory will come later. But I think that logically speaking it is better to begin with territory and discuss things afterward. I think that anyone else would have done the same thing. Let us say that there are positions or a variety of states — but not contradiction. We consider that once well settled in the Sahara we would be better placed to talk to whoever we have to talk to in all frankness, without the slightest complication and without the slightest duress.

Now what you call diplomatic setbacks — one should say that all depends on which side one places itself. If one sides with legality, Morocco — which does not want to be considered one day as the accomplice of a flagrant violation of the OAU Charter — has preferred to withdraw from the OAU. But I do not think that this is a setback. I rather think that it is an attitude that should be a matter for reflection for many of our African heads of state. Besides, this is far from being a setback, because since we left the OAU we have never received so many foreign delegations from Africa, and even countries who have believed that they were permitted to recognize the Sharan Democratic Arab Republic now come to visit us. I say that on the bilateral level, Morocco has never been as African as it is now. I believe that when it comes to negotiating and when the time comes, one should negotiate without any worry that one has an excellent history to defend.

[Question] Your Majesty, do you mean that the time will or should come when one will have to talk with whomever one has to talk to. These are your own words. Who are these persons? With whom do you envisage having talks?

[Hassan II] Well, I intend to talk to the United Nations. My file is ready, my proposals are there. I intend to enter into a dialogue with the United Nations, which in turn will open a dialogue with whomever it will consider should enter into a dialogue.

[Question] On a regional level, who do you think you have to talk to?

[Hassan II] Let us be honest.

[Question] Yes.

[Hassan II] I have nothing to ask Algeria for; Algeria has nothing to give to me. Algeria was neither France nor Spain that had colonized Morocco to give the Sahara back to me. The Sahara is Moroccan; it will definitely be so by the freely expressed will of its inhabitants. But I have nothing to ask from the Algerians, and the Algerians have nothing to ask from me. I believe that the Algerians have never been masters of this region of Africa, and I do not see why Morocco's fate should be tied down to their will.

[Question] Your Majesty, what about a dialogue with those Saharans who are not presently in the Sahara, that is with the Polisario?

[Hassan II] Well, as I have said to you, we are ready — indirectly, with UN participation and in accordance with the process established in Nairobi in 1981 and 1982 — to discuss the modalities of a cease-fire and of a referundum, but never directly [with the Polisario].

[Question] Your Majesty, do you then not ever want to negotiate directly with the Polisario? Is it an eventuality that you have never envisaged?

[Hassan II] It is not that I do not want to — the Moroccans do not want me to have direct talks. As far as we are concerned, we have said: Here are our conditions — a free referundum with foreign observers, organized by the United Nations, and a unilateral cease-fire immediately. Now the day you consider that these conditions are really the best, come and knock at our door. But going every year to the United Nations for nothing — this would confer on the United Nations a much smaller dimension than is hers.

[Question] Your Majesty, one remembers a certain Chadli-Hassan II encounter. It was thought that something was going to happen and that relations were going to improve, that it was going to lead to something good for the Maghreb. It well seems that this proved to be a nonstarter. Is anything hoped for any more from this direct contact?

[Hassan II] You know, in our job nothing is definitive, and nothing is ever irreversible. It has always been said that politics is like agriculture: When things are not ripe, they are not ripe; when they are ripe, they are. One ought to know how to wait. But at any rate, I am personally ready to meet President Chadli when he wants or when I consider it necessary, but without the slightest anxiety or sense of guilt or complicity. I have a good file, and I am rady to discuss it with anyone.

[Question] Your Majesty, to continue with other questions related to the Maghreb, this Saharan affair has very considerably poisoned your relations with Algeria. At one moment you were even on the brink of an armed conflict. Do you fear that could indeed lead to a war?

[Hassan II] I think that on both sides we are equally vigilant that things not go further, because it would be a catastrophe. Thanks be to God, the Iraqi-Iranian conflict justifies those who did not want to go to the bitter end. This being said, the thing I always fear is that we are always at the mercy of a stupid incident — fortuitous, unwanted by either side — which, God forbid, would set off a grave chain of events. The only thing I wish — I repeat it and mention it at press conferences — I wish that our neighbors are as vigilant as we are, and that they consider, like us, that whatever the nature of an incident it would not deserve an escalation because it would be a catastrophe for both countries. Neither would win. Both would be losers and all would have to be done over again.

[Question] Your Majesty, the expulsion this summer of a certain number of foreign workers from Libya provoked a grave csisis between Libya and Tunisia. Morocco has also tried to play the role of a mediator. Algeria was seen to be getting constantly closer to Tunisia, and then suddenly, the Libyans have come to Algeria again. I would like, Your Majesty, to know your feelings about this Libyan-Algerian rapprochement, and I would like to know what you think of the current situation between the Maghreb countries?

[Hassan II] It is a question of temperament. There are persons who are affected with panic because they see two countries become closer after a quarrel. Other do not panic, because after all Morocco's fate is not tied to an Algerian-Libyan rapprochement. Quite the contrary, Morocco wishes only one thing: That relations between Libya and Algeria are normalized. Any lessening of tension in North Africa would be beneficial to Morocco. That Algeria and Libya exchange ambassadors or letters is part of their respective sovereignty. But to say, what is going to happen if — well, good God, Morocco is not vulnerable. One must calm down.

[Question] Your Majesty, at this moment the Tunisian prime minister affirms that Tunisian-Libyan relations are below zero. Thanks to the Arab-African Union between Morocco and Libya, can one think that things are going to be better between Tunisia and Tripoli quickly?

[Hassan II] I think that things could get better, because, thanks be to God, I have excellent relations with the Tunisian prime minister; we share mutual esteem and personal friendship, and my partner President [as heard] al-Qadhdhafi does listen to me. He pays attention to what I say to him. It is certain that on both sides there is what is called an inner 'kitchen [cuisine interieure: domestic problems]. Things are thus played down or played up, but when one looks at the average situation between the two countries I think that the worst has passed.

[Question] Your Majesty, with regard to the Arab-African Union, what is your assessment of it and what specific prospects do you see today?

[Hassan II] I can say that so far this union has been active, that all the organs of the Oujda Treaty have been established and commissioned and that various bodies, whether legislative, executive, cultural, economic or social, have so far functioned without the smallest hitch; quite the contrary, with a well-marked good will on both sides.

[Question] Concerning the enlargement of the Arab-African Union, has a proposal been made to Chad?

[Hassan II] We have spoken about it. We have spoken about it as a possibility for Chad to be able to negotiate quietly with Libya and resume a peaceful neighborliness with it; as you wish, as a guarantee that it would be a full partner in the Arab-African Union. This has been seriously broached. I am not saying that anything has been concluded, but in this domain one needs time.

[Question] Do you see, Your Majesty, precisely under Morocco's auspices, the possibility of a summit meeting in Rabat between President Hissein Habre and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi? Is it on the agenda still or....

[Hassan II] I must say to you that it has never been envisaged this way. It was thought perhaps that President Hissein Habre could perhaps go to Tripoli or meet Col al-Qadhdhafi somewhere else. I think that Col al-Qadhdhafi's forthcoming trip to Senegal is not alien to such a prospect. Well, I think, it is....

[Question interrupts] Does it mean that things are moving, Your Majesty?

[Hassan II] Things are moving in a good direction; things are moving in a good direction.

[Question] Your Majesty, concerning your forthcoming state visit to France. It is being said that, in the context of the constant reequipping of your army, Morocco may soon buy French aircraft. Can one think that the pilots of the Royal Air Force will soon be flying Mirage-2000 aircraft? It has been said even that there will be 24 Mirage-2000's.

[Hassan II] You are well informed. Everything depends on how quickly the Mirage-2000 will be delivered to us, but our F-1 aircraft pilots say the planes need only a few hours of conversion to be fully operational. But since we have raised this problem, we have decided to be supplied with aircraft not only from France but also from the United States. Thus we would have an array of aircraft at all levels which would complement each other.

[Question] Your Majesty, do you then confirm that you are interested, that you are asking for Mirage-2000's?

[Hassan II] Yes, naturally. It is a bit too expensive but then one will talk about it.

[Question] Could you confirm the figure 24?

[Hassan II] As I said to you, I am obliged to confirmed it to you. You are so well informed. But when I say 24, one should also add maintenance. Let us say that this will make it [word indistinct].

[Question] Your Majesty, do you think that the clouds that had appeared between the United States and Morocco after the Oujda Treaty are now completely lifted?

[Hassan II] Yes, it is natural that to the American public — I am not speaking about the administration — Al-Qadhdhafi and Khomeyni are, if you wish, shocking phenomena. This is with regard to the public, but as far as the administration is concerned, well, they have understood that we are independent vis-a-vis both the United States and Libya, and that at any rate Morocco would engage in policies which would in the first place serve its own interests, its basic interests — not interests of no lasting significance.

[Question] Your Majesty, before coming to the Middle East, which is an important chapter, a few words about the EEC. I think that at this moment there are quite difficult negotiations between your government and the EEC, and things are not going very well.

[Hassan II] No, I would even say that we have to go through lean times, but I am assured that fat years are there. It is my conviction that one cannot change geography. Geography dictates. We are at the same time Africans and Europeans. Second, in the Europe of 10, everything is a question of political will — quotas, reference prices, and the rest will follow. There is no reason that on the political level our partners, our friends in Europe should not understand that it is in their interest to accept Morocco as a full member. But one will have to go through lean times. As far as I am concerned I am sure I'll be alive when Morocco is a member of the EEC. It is a certainly, and it will be sooner than you think.

[Question] Since the Casablanca summit many things have happened in the region, particularly the *Achille Lauro* affair that has harmed the PLO. Do you still trust 'Arafat?

[Hassan II] On a personal level or a political one?

[Question] Political.

[Hassan II] Because on the personal level, I have the greatest esteem for this man. This must be known. On the political level, I trust him and one must place oneself in his place. We are in the face of a resistance that is not yet well-organized and that certain Arab countries are seeking to dismantle every day.

[Question] Who are you hinting at?

[Hassan II] Well, to many Arab countries, to Libya, Syria, to Yemen. I am no poet, and in certain cases I use no euphemisms. They know this and say it. And, you know, the poor Palestinians do not know where to turn to. No, I trust them.

[Question] Do you have the impression that in spite of the whole evolution of the Middle East problem that the structure, the framework of the Fes plan is still valid and remains the only valid one?

[Hassan II] I believe the Fes plan remains valid but as you must have read in the letter I have just sent to the two great powers, I have added that although the Fes plan is valid, it does not exclude other approaches, provided we reach the desired results. We are not limited to some very well-defined itinerary.

[Question] Have you thought about certain points of the peace plan — in quotation marks — proposed by the Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres?

[Hassan II] You know, in that field I do not make a priori judgments. What interests me is that the Arab territories are occupied and whether the Palestinians are going to find a land. The opposing view is that everyone decides that there will no longer be any war because everyone will be recognized. Now, which plan will be the best one? I do not want to make a priori judgments. The main thing is to get there. [words indistinct] but Mr Shim'on Peres has let me know that he would like to come and see me. Well, I said to him: With great pleasure, but you and I are forbidden to undertake tourism. But yes, if you have something serious, come and see me. After all, how can one negotiate if one does not meet the other? But on condition that there is a serious point of departure. The day Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says to me: I have something serious to propose to you, why....

[Other questioner interrupts] You are ready to receive him?

[Hassan II] I am ready to break immediately afterward with him — by saying, you will forgive me, by saying that he is a joker or a Utopian — the French and Germans often saw each other to negotiate peace and war — unless it is on a serious basis.

[Question] Your Majesty, I would like to ask you if the prospects for the reintegration of Egypt into all the Arab organizations and the end of this quarantine inflicted on it at the Baghdad summit seems to you to be imminent?

[Hassan II] Egypt has not been excluded. Let's say that it was suspended. This was done at Baghdad at the time of a summit. I consider that only a summit — because we need parallel forms — onlya summit could reintegrate it.

[Question] Do you [words indistinct] Peres' proposal? Does this mean you would not be hostile to Peres meeting King Husayn directly?

[Hassan II] I think that this is for King Husayn to decide. But if King Husayn decided to meet him — [changes thought] I am not the King of Jordan.

[Question] Your Majesty, we have sometimes heard you say that the most dangerous conflict in the Middle East is perhaps not that between Israel, the Arab states and the Palestinians, but is perhaps that of the Gulf. This conflict is continuing, seems to be at an impasse, is very expensive, and it puts Iraq in a position

which is not very comfortable — no more so, in fact, then that of Iran. Do you think something could change in that conflict? Can the Arabs do something in the Gulf region?

[Hassan II] Oh, yes. I said the other day — perhaps it was too light a comparison — that we are having our religious wars in conformity with our calendar. Your wars of religion were in the 15th century — under the Hejiran calendar we are now in the 15th century — so we are having our wars of religion, too, in the 15th century, as if it were a fateful date.

You know, when wars are (?for religious reasons), they can go very far — without taking into account the fact that it is very close to Russia, it's quite close to Afghanistan, Pakistan is not far, oil wealth is there — it's the whole future of the Western world. The shortest route there has three straits to cross, Hormuz, Bab al-Mandab and the Suez Canal. All that makes for a mixture that is only waiting to be ignited. And that is why we have an interest in solving the Middle East problem rapidly, because there we are in the face of a whole knot of explosive grenades. (?As soon as there is) [words indistinct] there is no way out.

[Question] Your Majesty, you mentioned just now the problem of Arab summits with regard to the Egyptian question, but what is the situation in the Arab world over the Riyadh summit which was due to take place at the end of the year?

[Hassan II] In theory, it should be held at the beginning of the year, and I think King Fahd — and he is right to do this — must be logical with himself and with the summit that preceded it in Casablanca. In other words he must allow enough time for the reconciliation commissions to finish their work, in order to arrive in Riyadh and discuss the real problems and not problems of conflict (?among ourselves). But I think that in the first or the second month of January [phrase as heard], it all depends on the commissions, which will have to work fast — in theory it should not be later than February, I think.

[Question] Your Majesty, does that mean that if the mediation commissions do not succeed there will not be a summit in Riyadh, and that it will be held elsewhere?

[Hassan II] No, no, no. First of all, it must not be held elsewhere, it must be held in Riyadh. But you must be sure, that if you had to convene this summit and chair it you would want to have the smallest number of problems to deal with. It is the entire right and obligation of King Fahd to try to iron out bilateral or trilateral difficulties before getting to the problems that concern everyone.

[Question] [Words indistinct] you said just now that there is no integration [integrisme]. There was a trial of fundamentalists in Casablanca recently, and I wanted to ask you why you seem to be saying there is no integration in Morocco?

[Hassan II] Because (?basically) we do not have the same dictionary. Perhaps this dictionary is valid elsewhere, but for Morocco let us talk rather about fundamentalism, but not about integration

[Question] Do you think that fundamentalism in Morocco is only a religious matter? Because in other countries, at least in other Maghreb countries, that integration or [word indistinct] conceals forms of actual political protest. Do you think that....

[Hassan II, interrupting] In our country, no. I would, for example, allow a discussion on the interpretation of bank interest. Fundamentalism says you must not charge interest because it is prohibited by God. I will accept discussion, and I would like discussion always to be frank on the religious level in my country, as religion is the basis of our life.

[Question] At the highest level, at least in Morocco, people are wary of these integrationists [integrist] or these fundamentalists, as you call them, because [words indistinct] death sentences, even in absentia. That is one problem. There is another problem too, that of the young hunger strikers in Marrakkesh. What's the position there? You know that in the outside world Morocco has a reputation for repression. Amnesty International, just a week before your arrival, has brought out a long report on repression, imprisonment, cases of people disappearing in Morocco, and so forth.

[Hassan II] Let us define the difference between the fundamentalists and the integrationists. They were accused of being integrationists, fake integrationists, because they were not practising religion, they were practising politics. When people practise politics, which is not allowed by the laws of this country, we are obliged to deal severely with them because they were not respecting the rules of the game. We have a parliament, which is made for that. We have public freedoms, which are designed for that. Perhaps they are not considered by the French or by Amnesty International as being good, but they are for the Moroccans. I have not legislated for the French or the English. Likewise, the Presidency of the United States: It is an accident that they do not have a monarchy. They were very close to having a king.

[Question] This reputation for repression that Morocco has abroad — does this not worry you?

[Hassan II] Not at all.

[Question] Not at all?

[Hassan II] Because it is not repression, it is a punishment.

[Question] But there are people who are dying of torture.

[Hassan II] Under torture?

[Question] This is what the Amnesty International report says. What do you think about it?

[Hassan II] Listen, tell them from me, I am saying to them that I am ready — not because I am afraid of them, I am ready quite simply to show them that they are arrant liars — and they can sue me for slander if they wish — that they are arrant liars. I am ready to receive them here and ask them to tell me what cases of torture they have seen, and what cases of repression.

[Question] And the story of young Amine Tahani, who was talked about in all the papers in France?

[Hassan II] What?

[Question] The case of this young Moroccan engineer, Amine Tahani, who died in a rather....

[Hassan II, interrupting] If you had told me we were going to talk about bookkeeping I would not have accepted at the outset. But since you have gotten around to it I can play the game. We can show you all the medical certificates which say he was a chronic asthmatic who died from a [word indistinct] of the lungs; and you can even ask the (?teachers) he worked with in France.

[Question] To conclude, I would like to ask a few economic questions. Morocco has launched [words indistinct] into a policy of full liberalization. Now, are you a Reaganite?

[Hassan II] To be a Reaganite, you have to govern the United States. No you must not say I am a Reaganite. When, sometimes in *L'EXPRESS* or *LE POINT* I see that someone has Reaganite tendencies, I say: No, another word must be found. No, one cannot be a Reaganite when one is in France or Germany. You have to be in the United States and accept the budget deficit and trade imbalance he has. No, I am not a Reaganite, I am a liberal; but I consider that for this the International Monetary Fund must allow us time to liberalize on our own, as we cannot go from an economy where the state is the greatest client of businesses, directly and [words indistinct] a liberalism which, in order to exist must be able to export. We want to liberalize, but we must not die of indigestion immediately. This is what we are tending to do.

[Question] Your Majesty, since you are talking to the United States, do you think American aid for 1985-86, which should be, I think $318 million, is sufficient, while for the previous period it was already $315 million. This $3 million increase does not even cover inflation.

[Hassan II] Let us say that they quite simply continued the same aid as in the previous year. Of course, it appears to me to be insufficient. And there's one think I can never be made to do. I am ready to make any sacrifice for my country, but to go knocking on doors to ask for money, that I cannot do. I shall never do it.

Clarification on Peres Meeting

LD270016 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Statement issued by the Moroccan Ministry of Interior and Information]

[Text] The Ministry of Interior and Information has issued the following statement:

His Majesty King Hassan II, prior to the official visit he will pay to France on 27 November, held a news conference with the French press club.

In the course of the king's conversation on the Arab-Israeli conflict and in reply to a question by one of the journalists in connection with the possibility of a meeting being held between his majesty the king and Shim'on Peres, his majesty said in particular: In light of the responsibilities we shoulder, any visit for purely tourist or recreational purposes is not under consideration. Any meeting between Shim'on Peres and myself cannot take place unless Peres has tangible proposals on achieving peace that he can put forward to the Arabs. I do not at all rule out the possibility of a meeting being held in that instance.

Some international media which reported the king's statements inferred from these statements that his majesty might have been extending an indirect invitation to Shim'on Peres. They added that Peres said after being contacted about this that he is ready to immediately accept the invitation.

In order to remove any misunderstanding, his majesty wishes to clarify what he meant in the interview today, Tuesday, 26 November 1985, to members of the journalists association accredited to the Elysee. His Majesty did not, either directly or indirectly, extend an invitation to Shim'on Peres. The main demands of the Arab states concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict have already been clearly explained and are known to all. These demands basically seek the liberation of occupied Arab territory and recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

Consequently, no meeting can take place unless Peres is prepared to respond to these two conditions, and such a meeting cannot in itself be more than a preliminary stage to discuss the circumstances, manner, and necessary framework for implementing these two demands.

AFP Account on Peres

NC261427 Paris AFP in English 1421 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Rabat, Nov 26 (AFP) — Moroccan King Hassan II today ruled out "all direct contact" with Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres in a search for a Middle East peace settlement.

Ending speculation on a possible meeting, King Hassan told journalists on the eve of a trip to France: "If Mr. Peres has something concrete to put forward, he can put his proposals in an envelope and address them to the secretary general of the U.N. (United Nations)."

King Hassan II yesterday said, "Shimon Peres has let me know that he would like to come to see me. So I have told him... if you have something serious, come to see me."

But today the king said his offer was a general one and meant the Arab side was open to dialogue with the Israeli Labour government on condition that Israel recognised the Palestinian's right to self-determination and liberated the occupied territories.

He favoured a "concomittance" of direct talks between interested parties and negotiations towards an international forum on the Middle East. The King said he would like to see the Soviets given a role in the peace process.

If I am told that Mr. Peres agrees to talk (on such a basis) I would be the first to advise to try," he said. [quote marks as received]

Speaking to French journalists, the king called for an international conference on terrorism, to include Eastern bloc countries, which would work out a charter to put to the United Nations.

SUDAN

Egyptian Chief of Staff Arrives 26 Nov

NC261557 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Nov (MENA) — Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, chief of staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces, arrived in Khartoum today on a 3-day visit to Sudan at the invitation of Lieutenant General Muhammad Tawfiq Khalil, chief of staff of the Sudanese Armed Forces.

During his stay in Sudan Lt Gen al-'Urabi will visit the various branches of the Sudanese Armed Forces and meet high-ranking Sudanese commanders. The visit comes within the context of the fraternal relations between Egypt and Sudan.

Foreign Ministry Condemns Hijack of Egyptian Plane

JN261821 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1742 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum 26 Nov (SUNA) — Sudan has condemned the hijacking of the Egyptian airliner and reiterated its stand rejecting acts of terrorism and violence that expose innocent people to torture and killing. In a statement today the Sudanese Foreign Ministry called on countries of the world to adopt decisive stands against violence and terrorism and to stamp out their causes and justifications. [Words indistinct] the Egyptian stand on the incident and said that it stems from Egypt's concern to save innocent people and from a serious and firm desire to fight violence and terrorism.

Sudan also said that the hijacking of the Egyptian airliner by terrorist air pirates and the regrettable developments that ended in the killing of a large number of innocent men, women, and children from various countries call for deep regret and sorrow.

Sudan described the incident as a brutal act against the Arab nation's culture and basic principles. This act of piracy really harms this nation and its culture and allows enemies awaiting the opportunity to tarnish the struggle of this Arab nation's honorable people.

The statement expressed Sudan's support for its brothers in Egypt and its sharing in their legitimate wrath against this act.

Minister Says Security 'Stable'; Criticizes U.S.

GF241336 Doha QNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Nov (QNA) — Lieutenant General 'Abbas Madani, Sudanese interior minister, has stated that the number of the accused in the recent racial plot in Sudan has risen to 200 civilians and military. He added that the investigation of the case still continues.

In a statement published today in the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, the Sudanese minister affirmed that the security situation in his country is stable and that security personnel are able to control the situation in a way that ensures security not only for Sudanese citizens, but for all who are living in Sudan.

The Sudanese minister criticized a recent U.S. statement on the situation in Sudan. He said: We are now free to adopt a foreign policy that will promote our country's national interests. We act freely in this direction, and we will not allow any one to interfere in our internal affairs.

The Sudanese minister indicated that some Sudanese political parties have surrendered their arms to the authorities. If the possession of arms by parties and the opposition in the past was justified, it is now unjustified, because the democratic march is guaranteed, he said.

Lieutenant General Madani did not rule out that the emergency laws in Sudan would be abolished if a peaceful settlement to the problem in the south is reached through the conference scheduled to be convened before the elections next April.

Cabinet Views Security Guarantees for SPLA Group

GF261132 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Nov (SUNA) — The cabinet has reviewed ways of ensuring security guarantees for an SPLA delegation coming to negotiate with the official political parties on the problem of the south in order to reach solutions that serve the interests of the country.

This came in a statement by Prime Minister Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah to *AL-AYAM* newspaper published today. He affirmed the cabinet's readiness to listen to all points of view and to hold a constitutional conference for resolving the current problems.

The newspaper pointed out that the national alliance for the salvation of the homeland is currently preparing for the constitutional conference and is studying the security guarantees for the SPLA delegation to the conference, which will be held in December.

SPLA Reiterates No Delegation To Visit Khartoum

EA262126 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 26 Nov 85

["Statement" by the Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLA-SPLM) Political-Military High Command]

[Excerpt] Only a few days have elapsed since the Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement Political-Military High Command issued its last statement, in which it categorically denied reports that a delegation from

the movement would be sent to Khartoum. The SPLA High Command has once more felt obliged to make a further statement. This has been dictated by the trend of events, which has shown that the Transitional Military Council [TMC] is still determined to distort reality and disseminate false reports. Hence, to give the public a correct picture therefore, the following statement was issued today by the SPLA High Command under the title "The SPLA Never Said it Was Sending a Delegation to Khartoum Under Security Guarantee of the TMC":

A perusal of SPLA's letter of 4 November 1985 addressed to the Council of the National Alliance for National Salvation would leave no doubt in anybody's mind that the SPLA had completely dismissed the idea of sending a delegation to meet the National Alliance in the absence of its own security arrangements. In spite of this, the National Alliance has been active over the past 2 weeks preparing the necessary groundwork in anticipation of an SPLA delegation. Since the Alliance response had been obviously at odds with the message contained in SPLA's letter of 4 November 1985, the inevitable conclusion is that something went seriously wrong. The Council of the National Alliance must have in all probability failed to get the letter. By embarking on preparations to receive an SPLA delegation, the Alliance was most probably acting on the misinformation that such a delegation was indeed on its way. However, this incorrect information, of which the source has not been identified yet for certain, could not have been in written form. Any document of such a nature purported to have issued from the SPLA would be forgery, pure and simple, because the only document sent by the SPLA in this regard is its letter of 4 November 1985 addressed to Dr Khalid (Yaqi) president of the Council of the National Alliance for the National Salvation of the country.

No other correspondence contradicting in any way the said letter has been received by the Alliance from the SPLA. On the basis of the story that an SPLA delegation would be going to Khartoum, the National Alliance prepared a tentative program for the expected visit covering matters ranging from issues like the agenda down to the minutiae of the details like accommodation and expenses. The agenda drawn up by the National Alliance and incorporated into its tentative program for the supposed visit of an SPLA delegation, though not exhaustive, contains many points the SPLA would be interested in discussing. Therefore, the SPLA still looks forward to receiving a delegation from the Alliance so as to exchange views over these matters.

The National Alliance for National Salvation has been the victim of a malicious trick which has deliberatley misled it into believing that an SPLA delegation would travel to Khartoum. Those responsible for this extremely wicked act of deceit are undoubtedly those who stand to lose everything should the SPLA and the National Alliance reach mutual understanding. It does not require a genius to figure out that the strategy of the elements who devised the scheme is to create a rift between the SPLA and the National Alliance. The tale that the SPLA would be sending a delegation to Khartoum was calculated to goad the Alliance into starting about the task of making the necessary arrangements to receive the delegation, which, of course, would never show up. This, in turn, would deeply embarrass the National Alliance and afford the TMC and its sympathizers the much-coveted golden opportunity of belittling the Alliance and attacking its credibility. The TMC would also have killed two birds with one stone, because the SPLA, on the other hand, would be isolated once the alliance has been made to feel disillusioned with the SPLA-SPLM.

The TMC is only too poignantly aware of the fact that a National Alliance working in concert with the SPLA would pose a formidable threat, capable of mobilizing massive popular support against it. For this reason it should not be surprising at all that the TMC is expending all its energy in the desperate bid to weaken both the SPLA and the National Alliance. This is being done mainly through the fabrication of untrue stories and reports such as the one that had been claiming lately that the SPLA was sending its delegation to Khartoum. It is imperative that the TMC is precluded from sowing the seeds of mutual suspicion and distrust between the National Alliance and the SPLA. The first step in this direction should be to conduct a thorough investigation by the Alliance into the circumstances surrounding the recent unfortunate episode in which it fell easy prey to the pernicious intrigues of the SPLA and the alliance's common enemy. The National Alliance for National Salvation would do well to probe deeply into how it got misled into believing that an SPLA delegation would go to Khartoum notwithstanding official correspondence to the contrary.

Getting down to the root of this matter, of course, gains more significance when taken in the context of SPLA contact with the Alliance. These contacts, of which the future will hopefully witness plenty more, are by necessity a continuous process. Therefore, for the benefit of such future contacts it is vitally important that the SPLA and the National Alliance strive to eliminate all barriers which may tend to hamper a correct mutual understanding of each others views. It hardly needs stressing that it is quite essential for the SPLA and the National Alliance to receive each other's messages correctly.

The maneuver by the TMC aims at undermining the National Alliance, and the frequent trips to foreign capitals designed primarily to isolate the SPLA will not serve any useful purpose as far as peace is concerned. This ploy may gain propaganda points for the TMC in the short term but could never bring peace to the country. Both the SPLA and the National Alliance for National Salvation are possessed of sufficient political maturity. So there is no way they could be deceived and the TMC could never hope to drive a wedge between the two organizations.

SPLA Contradicts, Decries Government Battle Report

EA261927 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] A radio SPLA correspondent attached to SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] forces of Abu Shawk Battalion has furnished details of fighting on 14th November 1985 between SPLA units of Abu Shawk and Siwar al-Dhahab's forces. According to our correspondent the SPLA's forces pursued the government forces to their barracks and completely destroyed the buildings. Our correspondent further revealed that the pursuit of the government troops by the SPLA was a result of the government's attack on the SPLA positions around Melut. In this encounter the government military commander in Melut, Major

Hasan Abdullah Hasan, who commanded his forces against the SPLA, was killed when his car hit a land mine following a hasty and disorganised retreat in the face of SPLA's assault after repulse of the enemy's attack.

The official SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] spokesman has commented on the government's belated announcement of the clash, saying that it had been deliverately timed to coincide with the ongoing Madani conference of the National Alliance so that SPLA could be portrayed as a warmonger and thus discredit it.

TMC Member Repeats Call for Garang To Enter Talks

JN261850 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Malakal/Sudan, 26 Nov (SUNA) — Major General James Loro, Transitional Military Council member and chairman of the Transitional Higher Executive Council of the Southern Region, has reiterated the call to Colonel John Garang to agree on the principle of dialogue. He asserted that his government is ready to contribute to bringing the viewpoints of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement and the Armed Forces closer together.

In a popular rally held here this morning his excellency asserted that his government is seriously working to achieve peace in the south by achieving security and stability. Transport and Communications Minister Peter Gatkouth also addressed the rally, asserting the need to close the southerners' ranks to achieve peace.

TUNISIA

Government Condemns Egyptian Plane Hijacking

LD261841 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Following the Egyptian civilian plane's hijacking to Malta, a Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman made the following statement:

The Tunisian Government followed with utmost indignation the news of the Egyptian civilian airplane which was diverted from its course to Malta. It expresses its deep pain and the Tunisian people's pain for the tragedy that ended that incident. As much as the Tunisian Government (?regrets) that disgraceful operation, it equally condemns the criminal behavior of the airplane's hijackers and considers the resort to acts of terrorism and aggression on innocent persons as stupid and irresponsible behavior, which cannot be related to patriotism or to legitimate struggle. Rather, it is an oppressive and [words indistinct] and only aims at distorting the Arab reputation and diverting international sympathy away from Arab causes.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu, DPRK Official Visit Regional Projects

EA261146 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] Continuing his regional working tour, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam today inspected various places in Dolo Province, Bale Region, which are expected to be used for national development projects, and gave directives to comrades deployed in construction activities in the area to redouble their efforts for implementing the plans. Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee secretary general, Provisional Military Administrative Council chairman, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, together with Comrade Li Chong-ok, Politburo member of the Korean Workers Party and vice president of the DPRK, were given a warm welcome on arrival at Mena town in Dolo Province and during their subsequent visit by the provincial party committee members and residents of the area.

On arrival at the Wolmel River, which is expected to have more than 30,000 hectares of land for development, they were briefed by Comrade Mekonen Maru, first secretary of the province's WPE committee on the feasibility of the river [as heard] and in general on the province's political, economic, and social conditions. It was learned from the briefing that according to the feasibility studies of the area, it was possible to carry out extensive irrigation from Wolmel River to grow cotton, sesame, coffee, and various cane crops and that a feasibility study has been carried out for a hydroelectric power project on the (Chawe) and (Dote) falls. Preparations are under way to carry out the work on completion of the survey.

In line with the suitability of the area for cattle keeping, Comrade Mekonen noted that it is possible to rear cattle for meat and dairy products. He added that a road from Mena to Negele Borena is currently under construction and said that the bridge on Wolmel River has a strategic use for the development of the area.

Further Report

EA270008 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Continuing his working tour of regions, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, arrived in Arba Minch town today. On arrival in Arba Minch, our revolutionary leader and Comrade Li Chong-ok, member of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee Politburo and vice president of the DPRK, were given a warm welcome by Comrade Kasahun Tafese, member of the WPE Central Committee and first secretary of the region's WPE Committee, by other WPE Central Committee members, and by residents of Arba Minch town.

Before their tour of Arba Minch town, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam and Comrade Li Chong-ok inspected the Gilgel Gibe hydroelectric power project in Kefa Region, the largest in Revolutionary Ethiopia. On arrival at the project Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam and Comrade Li Chong-ok were received by Comrade Tekeze Shewa Aytenfisu, member of the WPE Central Committee and minister of mines and energy resources; heads of various departments of the ministry; and Korean experts working on the project. After inspecting construction work on the Gilgel Gibe Dam, our comrade revolutionary leader directed that the necessary steps should be taken to speed up the work.

Comrade Begashaw Atali, member of the WPE Central Committee and first secretary of the Kefa Region WPE Committee, briefed them on economic, political, and social activities in the region. Comrade Adis Tedla, member of the WPE Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the National Committee for Central Planning; Comrade Tesfaye Dinka, alternate member of the WPE Central Committee Politburo and finance ministers; WPE Central Committee members; ministers; commissioners; members of the high-level delegation led by Comrade Li Chong-ok; and ambassadors of the two countries were also present.

KENYA

Official Charged With Selling Information to Soviets

HK270614 Hong Kong AFP in English 0601 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Nairobi, Nov 27 (AFP) — A clerical officer in Kenya's Motor Vehicles Registration Department has been charged with selling secret information to Soviet agents here, the *KENYA TIMES* reported today.

The paper, owned by the ruling Kenya African National Union (KANU), said Jackson Kirembu Kitui, 36, was barred from pleading to the charge when he appeared in court here yesterday. Consent to prosecute him had not been obtained from the attorney general, the court was told.

Mr Kitui was allegedly caught on November 8 in possession of a list of car registration numbers for the country's security services.

He is due to appear in court again on December 10, the paper said.

SOMALIA

Businessmen's Committee Assumes Control of Trade

EA261159 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Excerpts] A five-man interim committee made up of the country's private businessmen, whose responsibility is to coordinate and organize all matters concerning the Somali business community, officially took over the running of commercial, agricultural, industrial, and livestock trade centers in the country today. The interim committee, which is under the chairmanship of Challe Muhammad Haji Ibrahim Egal, today held talks with the Somali minister for industries and commerce [as heard], Challe Abdalla Mohamed Fadhil, at the ministry's headquarters in Mogadishu.

Challe Fadhil told the interim committee that its appointment is part of the economic revitalization exercise embarked on by the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Government. He also spoke of how the private businessmen of Somalia could participate in order to increase domestic production. The minister added that it is the policy of the SDR Government to involve all Somali businessmen in exploiting the natural resources of this country, particularly livestock, agriculture, fisheries, industry, and other sectors.

The SDR minister for industries and commerce further added that in order to increase the economic output of the country and raise the living standards of the Somali people it is imperative to streamline and balance the country's imports and exports. The minister added that a firm policy to reduce the influx of nonessential goods has been adopted.

Touching on the program before the committee Challe Fadhil added that the country's commercial interests should basically be involved in joint ventures. He added that joint Somali commercial ventures can have direct links with outside businessmen and manufacturers.

The chairman of the interim committee, Challe Mohamed Haji Ibrahim Egal, is to be assisted by Challe Uthman Ahmad Robleh as vice chairman and Challe Mohamed Mahmud Khawiy, Challe Mohamed Khalif Shireh, and Jafar Mohamed Badar as members.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Speaks on Assumption of Party Leadership

EA261112 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1348 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Speech by Party Chairman Julius Nyerere on arrival in Dodoma to assume his party duties — live in Kiswahili]

[Excerpts] Ndugu President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Ndugu Secretary General, Ndugu party and government leaders, Ndugu citizens:

As was stated earlier, I came here officially to assume my duties as the leader in chief of our party in a rather different fashion. This is not the first time I have done so. I have done it before and I wish to reiterate my confidence that during the period I will be engaged in party work we shall all cooperate in strengthening our party. We are a one-party state. Countries with two parties have their own problems such as deep divisions, something from which we do not suffer, but they have one advantage when they have more than one party, because when one party is in power the other acts as a watchdog. Since the opposition party is not in power, it looks out for mistakes being made by the ruling party. It discusses and documents the mistakes so that it might use them in the next election in an effort to bring down the ruling party. The ruling party, therefore, becomes very careful not to make mistakes that could be publicized by the opposition party and lead to problems in the next election.

When you have one party, as we do, and that party also happens to lead the government, the danger is that the government might conduct its affairs carelessly due to the absence of an opposition party.

Therefore, that is one responsibility for a party such as ours: to stay very close to the people. It does not assume the role of an opposition party. The party cannot change and create the impression that the government belongs to a different party while the party itself acts as an opposition group. The party must be very close to the people, very close to the government, and always ready to remind the government of the reasons for electing it and the importance of meeting the people's needs.

Second, the party must also help the government. My hope is that during the short period in which I will be able to cooperate with my colleagues in strengthening the party we shall carry out these tasks diligently and consolidate the party's foundation [words indistinct] to be much closer to the people, to understand the people's needs, and to be much closer to the government and remind the government of the promises made during the elections.

It must also understand the problems facing the government and help the people to understand these problems, because a government such as ours must be faced with problems no matter whether it is led by virtuous people or not. It is necessary that the citizens understand and appreciate these problems so that they can cooperate. I hope that we shall jointly undertake these tasks.

BBC Interviews President Mwinyi on Economy

MB222028 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 22 Nov 85

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] It is less than a month since President Ali Hassan Mwinyi took over from Julius Nyerere in Tanzania, though Nyerere retains the powerful post of party chairman. One of the last measures taken by President Nyerere was to allow private businesses to import masses of consumer goods, something the country's donors have been demanding for some time. In Dar es Salaam, Michael Woolridge asked Ali Hassan Mwinyi why they have done it and if that policy would continue.

[Begin recording] [Mwinyi] There is a lot of lack of consumer goods in the market and the government could not afford to bring them in, so we thought we could — we would allow other people who had means to do so, to do so. But that is sadly a temporary measure: As soon as the government is able, through its parastatal institutions, to provide the necessities, then we may not continue with the type of liberalization that we used to have.

[Woolridge] But do you not feel that that liberalization has helped to improve the economic prospects, giving more incentive to the private sector particularly? Do you not see some merits in continuing it?

[Mwinyi] Oh yes, oh yes, there is a lot of merit, given you get people who play the game according to the rules. But as it is, you

will find quite a number of people are taking advantage of this, and taking a lot of goods away from this country without returning enough for what they have taken out, and there is this danger of people cheating, which is beginning to cause us some concern.

[Woolridge] But even if there has been a kind of abuse, is that necessarily a case for reversing the policy once again to a more rigid economic policy, which presumably would make your donors somewhat distressed, who very much welcomed the opening up of the economy?

[Mwinyi] Yes. As a matter of fact, we don't want to close it down. We would like to continue with that, but we must see to it that those who are practicing it do so according to the wishes of the government. In other words, we shall continue allowing people, but we will be more careful -- much more careful — to see that those who are given the opportunity do not abuse the opportunity.

[Woolridge] One of the most significant economic measures taken, perhaps, in the last few months has been the returning of sisal estates to the private sector. Do you intend to carry out further denationalization of that kind?

[Mwinyi] Well, that depends on the (?need). As for sisal, for example...

[Woolridge, interrupting] Yes...

[Mwinyi, interrupting] We shall continue it. Dr Nyerere has always been saying that sometimes we are not angels here — we are human beings. Sometimes we do make mistakes. So, whenever we have found a mistake having been done, we are prepared to correct it.

[Woolridge] Do you have any other sectors of the economy in mind at the moment where there might be denationalization?

[Mwinyi] We are thinking very seriously about coffee. We have nationalized some coffee plantations and the new owners are not doing very well, so we are giving a thought to that. We have not decided yet, but we are watching.

[Woolridge] There has been much speculation about the kind of working relationship that you will have with Dr Nyerere in his capacity as party chairman during the next 2 years. Now, he has in recent weeks stressed the power and strength of the party, and he has also said that essentially you and your ministers will be implementing the party policy. How do you see relations — the relationship between the two of you?

[Mwinyi] That has always been the case. In Tanzania the party is supreme and the government is normally an instrument which carries out the party guidelines. Dr Nyerere used to do that. I shall do the same. So there is no problem at all: Because what he has been doing, I shall do the same. I accept the party to be the supreme organ in the country, and all the government is supposed to do is to carry out the guidelines of the party. [end recording]

UGANDA

Government Said Massing Troops Near Katonga River

EA261835 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Kampala, 26 Nov (SUNA) — A report received by SUNA from its correspondent in Kampala says that the Ugandan Government has been transporting large numbers of troops to the line of confrontation with the forces of the Ugandan Resistance Movement, particularly on the Masaka road [words indistinct]. The report says that in the last 2 days government troops have been massing by the Katonga River [words indistinct] with scores of military vehicles. [Word indistinct] including 560 men, in addition to the Army, which represents the four resistance movements operating under the banner of the ruling Military Council.

Earlier the four movements participating in the Military Council decided on joint action to reopen the Masaka-Kampala road by force if the Nairobi talks end in failure. There are an estimated 10,000 troops massed by the Katonga River. They control the strategic bridge across the river. The report says that these extensive military movements point to a large-scale confrontation between the two sides if the peace talks fail.

It has been confirmed that for its part the Ugandan Resistance Movement is strengthening its positions along the entire front line and continuing its mobilization of young men in the areas it controls in west and southwest Uganda.

CAMEROON

President Receives FRG Foreign Ministry Official

AB261341 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Excerpt] President Paul Biya this morning received in audience an FRG official at the Unity Palace. He is (Hans Genscher Filima), regional director at the West German Foreign Ministry. The discussions between the two men lasted about 90 minutes.

Speaking to the press after the audience the FRG official disclosed that an invitation has been extended to the head of state to visit the FRG and that the invitation has been accepted. Also, an industrial, economic, and scientific exhibition will be held in 1986 in Yaounde.

CHAD

Goukouni Calls Joint GUNT-CSR Meeting for 1 Dec

AB261450 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1830 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] After the establishment of the Supreme Revolutionary Council [CSR] and the reshuffle of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], it is incumbent upon the members of the two bodies to assume their historic responsibilities with a view to pursuing the liberation struggle.

In this regard, upon consultations Comrade Goukouni Oueddei, president of the GUNT and chairman of the CSR, has just decided to convene the first joint meeting of the members of the ruling organs of the Chadian revolution. The following is the content of the presidential communique:

Communique: All members of the CSR and the GUNT are invited to attend a meeting on 1 December at 1000 at the GUNT headquarters in Bardai. The persons concerned must be present in Bardai by 30 November 1985 at the latest.

Bardai, 18 November 1985

[Signed] Goukouni Oueddei, chairman of the CSR, president of the GUNT, and head of state

Habre Returns From Zaire, Speaks to Press

AB261126 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Excerpts] President Hissein Habre has just returned from Kinshasa. He arrived in Ndjamena precisely at 1545. He was welcomed on his disembarkation from the Air Chad Fokker-28 aircraft by Dr Abba Siddick, minister of national education, who acted on his behalf while he was away, as well as members of the Central Committee of the National Union for Independence and Revolution, the government, and the National Consultative Council; ambassadors accredited to Chad; members of international organizations; and a group of officers of the Chadian National Armed Forces. In the VIP lounge of the Ndjamena International Airport the president of the republic gave his impressions on the festivities, on Zaire's experience, and on the lessons one can learn from that experience to the national press.

Speaking about Zairian-Chadian cooperation, the head of state said that in addition to the military cooperation between the two countries they also pursue cooperation in many sectors, and this cooperation will soon be strengthened.

[Begin recording] [Habre] We do not only maintain military cooperation. We maintain (?multidimensional) cooperation. You know that Chadian students and trainees are in Zaire's institutions, but there are also many [words indistinct], because as you know, there is an important and dynamic Chadian community in Zaire. Our traders can import Zairian production, so our cooperation involves many sectors that we seek to develop. There are also excellent political relations between our two countries. In fact, I would like to tell you that we are planning to establish and vitalize our relations in the field of information, particularly between our two ministries.

[Unidentified reporter] [Passage indistinct].

[Habre] Well, when there is an occasion like the recent one in Zaire people think that the heads of state are going to take a rest amidst cultural activities, but these occasions are also used to hold working meetings. Therefore, I had contacts with the heads of state who were in Kinshasa. I met with President Abdou Diouf, the current OAU chairman; Sudanese President Siwar al-Dhahab; and many other delegations. Concerning your question, I will simply say that I conferred with President Diouf on the Chadian-Libyan problem. As to whether Al-Qadhdhafi will change or not, that is another matter. I know neither the heart nor the mind of Al-Qadhdhafi. [end recording]

GABON

President Bongo Returns From Zaire 26 Nov

AB262056 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The head of state, His Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo, returned to Libreville this afternoon from Kinshasa, where he took part in the festivities marking the 20th anniversary of President Mobutu's accession to power. The head of state left Libreville on 23 November 1985 along with three cabinet members, that is, Minister of State Martin Bongo and ministers Jean Francois Ntoutoume-Emane and Jean-Boniface Assele.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Meets Tanzanian, Moroccan, French Officials

AB261630 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1341 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 26 Nov (AZAP) — The new Tanzanian authorities are determined to maintain and develop sincere relations of brotherhood and friendship with Zaire. The vice president of Tanzania, Mr Idriss Abdoul Wakil, made this new outlook of

Dar es Salaam known to Marshal Mobuta Sese Seko during the audience granted him by the latter on Tuesday at Camp Tshatshi. "Quarrels between two brothers cannot be eternal. There is always the possibility of overcoming the difficulties," he remarked. Within a short time, relations between Zaire and Tanzania will be normalized, he announced. "I have come to open the door for this normalization. Very good things are going to follow," he added.

Mr Wakil, who led his country's delegation to the festivities marking the 20th anniversary of the Second Republic, had the chance to visit the presidential agro-industrial domain at Nsele. He said he was very impressed with the work done by the MPR at that site. In this connection, he said he will recommend this original experiment to his party and that the party could delegate one or two persons to draw inspiration from it. Drawing lessons from the celebration of the 20 years of the Second Republic, he stated that if the founding president has been able to stay on at the head of his country during all this time, it is because he knows the right path for his people.

The head of state also received Prince Moulay Ali, cousin of King Hassan II of Morocco, who emphasized to the press the indestructible friendship between the Moroccan and Zairian peoples.

General Lacaze, who had been received earlier on, said his interview with the guide [Mobutu] mainly concerned issues of military cooperation between France and Zaire from the point of view of technique, troop training, and equipment and supplies acquisition. General Lacaze is in charge of problems relating to the implementation of defense and cooperation agreements between France and African countries, at the French Ministry of Defense. He was escorted to Marshal Mobutu by General Likulia Bolongo, secretary of state for defense and territorial security.

Mobutu at Graduation of CAR Paratroop Trainees

AB261210 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0802 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 26 Nov (AZAP) — On Monday afternoon at Warrant Officer A. Lihau Camp — commonly called Ceta — the MPR founding chairman and president of the republic, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, supreme commander of the Zairian Armed Forces, FAZ, in the presence of his Central African counterpart, General Andre Kolingba, presided over the ceremony awarding paratrooper grades and diplomas to 53 trainees from the Central African Republic who completed a 1-month formation at Ceta, the training center for airborne troops.

The secretary of state for national defense and security of the territory, General Likuala, after extending a welcome to the Central African head of state, said that the Zairian Air Force, FAZA, with its airborne forces, remains one of the most formidable striking forces of the Zairian Armed Forces, FAZ.

Agreement Increases Line of Credit From Belgium

AB261204 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0801 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 26 Nov (AZAP) — The line of credit accorded Zaire by the Bank of the Kingdom of Belgium has henceforth been increased to 2.5 billion Belgian francs, instead of 1.5 billion. The agreement on the increase was signed on Monday evening at the private residence of the head of state at Camp Tshatshi by the Belgian minister of external relations, Mr Leo Tindemans, and his Zairian counterpart, Citizen Mokolo wa Mpombo.

The signing ceremony took place at the end of the audience Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko accorded the Belgian minister, who came to represent his country in the festivities marking the anniversary of the Second Republic. He indicated that the extension of this line of credit will allow for a better expansion of the cooperation between Belgium and Zaire.

Information Chief Receives Chinese Journalists

AB261855 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Some Chinese journalists were at the headquarters of the Voice of Zaire yesterday. In fact, Citizen Ramazani Baya, the state commissioner for information and press, received the members of the delegation of the National Association of Chinese Journalists, who came to attend the 20th anniversary festivities of the Second Republic. On this occasion, the chief in charge of information and press explained to his guests the structure of his department under which the ZAIRE PRESS AGENCY [AZAP], the Zaire Radio and Television Office, and the newspapers operate in both Kinshasa and the interior of the country.

BENIN

Reportage on People's Revolutionary Party Congress

Kerekou Addresses

AB251530 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
2045 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Address by President Mathieu Kerekou to the second ordinary congress of the People's Revolution Party of Benin [PRPB] in Cotonou — monitored in progress; date not given — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Pending the creation of a party institute of international relations, the structures and programs of the Center of Administrative Studies and Further Training of Cadres should be reorganized so that the cadres of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation may undergo periodic refresher courses there. [Break in transmission]

C: Tasks accomplished and results achieved:

First: The party — During its second session, the third Central Committee restructured its Standing Commissions and redefined their assignments. In order to ensure their smooth and regular functioning, the issue of their headquarters has been solved temporarily and materiel and human means have been put at their disposal. These means, although meager, enabled them to essentially discharge their du[illegible] as technical organs of the Central Committee.

Concerning the installation of the statutory structures of the party, we have to point out that we have remained, so far, at the stage of provisional structures. However, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee decided on 4 June 1985 to renew and reactivate the steering committees of these structures. In order to enable the provisional provincial secretariats of the party to be in permanent contact with the grassroots ministers, vehicles and offices were put at their disposal; some of them were even provided with headquarters and staff charged with executing the party's directives.

To increase the number of grassroots militants, a special recruiting drive was made following the ideological training seminar organized to this effect by the Central Committee of the PRPB from 12 to 23 April 1984 at Sekou. The recruiting was done following the appeal launched to the cadres in October 1979 by the Central Committee.

Sixth: External Relations — In execution of the recommendations of the first ordinary national congress, the party has prepared and organized from 26 May to 1 June 1981 a stock-taking seminar on the new diplomacy. The implementation of the results of this seminar enabled our party and our revolutionary state to undertake the reactivation of the external relations sector, and the judicious exploitation of the charter of the new diplomacy. Thus we have actively pursued our policy of good-neighborliness, consultation, and harmonization of our views with sister and friendly countries, and have also strengthened our relations of cooperation between parties and between states.

A. Cooperation between parties:

Our party has established relations of cooperation with the Communist Party of China, the Workers Party of Korea, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Czechoslovak Communist Party, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, the Polish United Workers Party, the Romanian Communist Party, the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Communist Party of Cuba, the French Communist Party, and the Party of the National Liberation Front of Algeria. Our party also maintains relations of cooperation with the African Marxist-Leninist parties, particularly the Congolese Labor Party, the MPLA party, Frelimo, and the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia. Cooperation with these various parties has intensified over the past years in the field of exchanges of delegations and of experiences, grants of scholarships, academic and political training of our cadres, and of participation in congresses.

B. Relations with foreign countries:

Our relations with foreign countries, it is to be recalled, are based on the principles of nonalignment, equality, mutual respect of sovereignty, mutual benefits, and national dignity. This is why our country's cooperation policy is a dynamic open door policy. It especially takes into account the social and economic development needs of our country, the People's Republic of Benin [RPB]. With the African and Arab countries, this cooperation is generally confined to exchanges of experience in various fields. However, we notice with satisfaction the level reached by our bilateral cooperation with Algeria, Libya, Nigeria, Togo, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger, Ivory Coast, and so on.

As for the Western countries, their intervention in the economic development of our country has increased dramatically over the past few years. In this regard, we greatly appreciate the attitude of the FRG, France, Japan, Norway, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Denmark, Canada, the United States of America, and Belgium, which show an increased and total readiness to cooperate closely with our country on the basis of the cardinal principle governing our new diplomacy.

Concerning the socialist countries, the objective of our party and our revolutionary state is to develop and to strengthen with them — on the basis of proletarian internationalism — economic, scientific, and technical relations. This objective really materialized concerning the cooperation with the DPRK, the PRC, the Republic of Cuba, the CSSR, the GDR, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Socialist Republic of Romania, the USSR, and so on. We will not fail on this occasion to stress particularly the appreciable contribution of the PRC and the DPRK to the social and economic development of our country, the RPB. Despite the heavy duties that their people are assuming to build a socialist society, these two countries show a true and deep friendship toward our people's struggle. [Applause] It is therefore good that our party, the PRPB, should glorify to the present generations the symbol of their cooperation so that our people, now and in the future, may remain faithful to this fraternity of sincere and concrete struggle. [Sentence as heard]

Politburo Members Elected

AB250940 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Members of the Political Bureau of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin elected at the second ordinary congress of the party — read by Ali Houdou, member of the PRPB Central Committee]

[Text] List of members of the Political Bureau of the Fourth Central Committee: Matheiu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee; Martin Dohou Azonhiho; Joseph Degla; Gado Girigissou; Roger Imorou Garba; Justin Gnidehou; Sanni Mama Gomina; Romain Vilon Guezo; Vincent Guezodje; Idi Abdoulaye Malam; and Simon Ifede Ogouma. Ready for the revolution, the struggle continues!

Congress Concludes

AB251540 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Excerpt] The national ordinary congress of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin, which was officially declared open last Monday by the chairman of the Central Committee, ended this afternoon at the festival hall of the Palace of the Republic in Cotonou.

Kerekou on Outcome

AB252020 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Address by Mathieu Kerekou, president of the Republic of Benin, at the closing ceremony of the second ordinary congress of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin in Cotonou on 24 November — recorded]

[Excerpts] Comrade members of the Central Committee of the PRPB, comrade congress participants, comrade members of the Standing Committee of the National Revolutionary Assembly, comrade members of the National Executive Council, comrade members of the delegations of the institutions and the constituted bodies of our revolutionary state, Your Excellencies, members of the diplomatic and consular corps, representatives of international organizations, honorable invited guests, militants of the Beninese revolution:

The second national ordinary congress of our vanguard party, the PRPB, which officially opened in this People's Hall of the Palace of the Presidency of the Republic on Monday, 18 November 1985, is gradually drawing to an end. Looking at the democratic and popular process that characterized its careful preparation and the results acheived, we are in a position to affirm publicly today that this second national ordinary congress of our party is another great victory which will be written in golden letters in the annals of the glorious history of our country, the People's Republic of Benin. [Applause] Indeed, the second national ordinary congress of our party is not only important because it effectively took place just a few days before the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the two major events in our national history — the foundation on 30 November 1975 of the People's Republic of Benin and the creation of the PRPB. The true importance and the exceptional dimension of this great national event lie in particular in the fact that this second national ordinary congress of our party is certainly in victorious consecration of a long democratic process which enabled us to achieve unity within the PRPB and gather all the Beninese people around their new party, through critical, lucid, and responsible analysis of the political, economic, ideological, and organizational demands imposed on the people who consequently assume their role of leaders in the task of building an independent and prosperous national economy on the path of socialism.

Considering the constant concern of our party in the face of the economic crisis in which our country has been plunged in recent years, like all other underdeveloped countries; considering the fundamental orientation, the specific objectives, and the major decisions made by the present congress; considering the atmosphere of understanding, the spirit of comradeship, and high responsbility that prevailed throughout our deliberations, we are in a position to state that our vanguard party, the PRPB, is a great honor for our militant people who possess noble revolutionary virtues. [Applause] This is why we are making it a patriotic and highly revolutionary duty to send our warm and militant congratulations to you comrade congress participants, individual and collective artisans, incontestable and incontested pioneers of the gigantic task of building a new society for the well-being of each one and for all of us — the socialist society. [Applause]

To all our compatriots both inside and outside, to all our friends or admirers of the Beninese revolution and who were not privileged to be present in this hall but who, throughout our deliberations, had us in their thoughts, we are sending the sincere words of gratitude of our party and of its fourth Central Committee. [Applause] Comrade congress participants, during this congress we were all able to see objectively, through the messages of the parties and personalities of our brotherly and friendly countries, the great esteem which the Beninese democratic and popular revolution enjoys outside. On behalf of the congress, we express to them our sincere feelings of gratitude for their friendly words of support. Once again, we want to solemnly renew today the total, permanent, and ardent desire of our people, our party, and our revolutionary state to pursue and to strengthen at all costs our ties of solidarity and cooperation with all justice-, peace-, and social progress-loving people on the basis of the fundamental principles guiding our new foreign policy — that is nonalignment, equality, mutual respect for sovereignty, mutual benefit, and national dignity.

In the face of the high responsibility before it in the consequent implementation of the decisions relating to the building of the party, its organization, and the conduct of the revolutionary struggle of our laborious and militant people for the building of a national, independent, and prosperous economy, the fourth Central Committee, through our voice, solemnly pledges to spare no efforts so that the fundamental orientations, the program, and the tasks mapped out by the present congress are carried out correctly and with dignity during the next 7 years. [Applause] Evidently, the deliberations of the second national ordinary congress of our party were held in a spirit of total unity and

cohesion, responsibility, and realism. This demonstrates the increased political maturity of our party and its unflinching desire to assume with clear-sightedness, efficiency, and success its historic mission of being a militant force of the heroic, firm, and resolute struggle courageously being undertaken by the entire Beninese people since 26 October 1972 for the triumph of their democratic and popular revolution.

During our deliberations, we made a courageous and unblemished critical analysis of the results of all our activities since the first ordinary national congress held in November 1979. As a result, we identified our mistakes both inside and outside the party. We were able to identify the causes of our numerous various difficulties and noted our gaps and shortcoming which we should fill or avoid at all levels as soon as possible. After this rigorous diagnosis, we identified and outlined specific efforts to be made by our people, our party, and our revolutionary state in order to go forward always. At the end of this second ordinary national congress of our party, we are fully confident so as to organize and pursue victoriously this process of building an independent and prosperous national economy along the path of socialism. Our party must work resolutely in order to build itself into a strong and influential Marxist-Leninist party on the basis of strengthening ideological unity and of the establishment of a true democracy within it. This is the essence of all the resolutions and recommendations adopted during our deliberations. This is the fertile and dynamic conclusion of all our discussions. This is the fundamental orientation which was outlined with objectiveness and clearsightedness by our present congress.

Dear congress participants, what do we have to do in the field? As the right guideline has been mappped out and the objectives to be attained outlined and mapped out, the major task before the entire party is that each member, its mass organizations, and its leadership organ must, as of today, Sunday, 24 November 1985, apply themselves with ardor, enthusiasm, and determination to the concrete, methodical, and rigorous implementation of the decisions made during the second ordinary national congress of our vanguard party, the PRPB. [Applause] Henceforth, in all our villages, quarters, and towns; in all our communities; in all our districts and in all our provinces — in short, in all the localities of our country, the People's Republic of Benin — the grassroots organizations of the party, the party's mass organizations, all categories and levels of workers both in the towns and in the villages must make sustained efforts, more than they did in the past, toward the diligent and correct accomplishment of their daily work in all areas of national activity in order to ensure the complete implementation of the objectives clearly defined in the economic and social program of the PRPB.

Comrade congress participants, honorable invited guests, this is the time and place to express, on behalf of our people, our party, and of our revolutionary state, our militant congratulations to all the comrade members of the third Central Committee and of its Political Bureau who, in spite of difficulties imposed on our country by the serious and prolonged world economic crisis, demonstrated throughout their term of office a high sense of sacrifice and selflessness. They organized and brought to a successful end the historic process of democratization of the revolutionary state authority in our country, the People's Revolutionary Republic of Benin. [Applause] We would also like, on behalf of our people, our party, and of our revolutionary state, and on behalf of all the congress participants present here, to warmly congratulate the comrade members of the fourth Central Committee for their brilliant election. [Applause] We have the firm conviction that the high and noble responsibility they have assumed as of today, Sunday, 24 November 1985, will be entirely crowned with success if they remain loyal to our people, their party, and their revolutionary state and if they implement actively and creatively the revolutionary principles of democratic centralism in line with Marxism and if they follow this line of action with faith and optimism, enthusiasm, and selflessness and execute methodically all the decisions made by the second ordinary national congress of the PRPB with unity of purpose and with revolutionary approach.

Before concluding, on behalf of our people, our party, and of our revolutionary state, we would like to thank our honorable invited guests, their excellencies the members of the diplomatic and consular corps, and representatives of international organizations who have followed, in this very hall, with much interest and sustained attention, the reports of the activities and orientations of the Central Committee of our vanguard party, the PRPB, from Monday, 18 November 1985, up to today. [Applause]

Finally, on behalf of the congress, we would like to thank all the comrade members of delegations and constituted bodies of our revolutionary state, and through them all the active forces of the nation.

Comrade congress participants, while we reiterate our militant congratulations to you, we wish you a safe return to your respective homes and to your various struggle fronts.

On this note, we declare closed today, Sunday 24 November 1985, the second ordinary national congress of our vanguard party, the PRPB. [Applause]

Immortal glory to the PRPB!

Immortal glory to the Beninese revolution!

Forward with the building of the PRPB into a strong and confident Marxist-Leninist party within the popular masses of our towns and rural areas! [Applause]

Forward with the correct and unfailing execution of the economic and social program of the PRPB to the benefit of the construction of an independent and prosperous national economic unity along the path of socialism. [Applause]

Scientific socialism is our path of development. Marxism-Leninism is our philosophic guide.

Ready for the revolution and the struggle continues! [Applause, followed by singing]

Congress Issues Communique

AB252252 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 24 Nov 85

["Final communique" issued in Cotonou at the end of the second ordinary congress of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin from 18 to 24 November — read by Ali Houdou, member of the Central Committee of the party]

[Text] The second ordinary national congress of the PRPB was held in Cotonou at the People's Hall of the Presidential Palace from Monday, 18 November, to Sunday, 24 November 1985. Solemnly opening the congress, Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee, our great comrade in arms, after saluting the invited guests and the 450 delegates to the congress, notably observed that this grand national event is the victorious culmination of a long process methodically conceived and implemented by the central leadership of the party, in the vivid and logical implementation of the revolutionary principles of Marxist democratic centralism.

The presentation of the Central Committee's activities and orientation by our great comrade in arms, Mathieu Kerekou, was one of the major activities of the second national ordinary congress. During the presentation of this important and enlightening report, the leader of the party had participants observe a minute's silence in memory of all martyrs of the democratic and popular revolution in general and of the late Adjo Boco Ignance and Abdoulaye Issa in particular. Through an exhaustive analysis he touched on the following issues:

1. The International Situation: At the time of the opening of the deliberations of the second national ordinary congress, the international situation is marked on the one hand by a general and persistent economic crisis in monopolist capitalism and the aggravation of the militarist tensions due to the unrestrained arms race. On the other hand, the international situation is marked by the courageous and continued struggle of the people of the Third World against the increased aggressiveness of international imperialism to conquer and consolidate national independence and to work with other peoples of the world to safeguard peace in the world.

2. The National Situation: Analysis of the national situation shows the firm desire and the fierce determination of the valiant working masses of the Beninese people to courageously pursue their national liberation struggle launched on 26 October 1972 on the path of people's democracy and socialism. The report clearly and obejctively established the achievements accomplished during the past 6 years by our party and our revolutionary state to find appropriate solutions to problems brought about by the adverse effect of the international economic crisis on our country, and before which our people have shown a great sense of militantism in order to preserve their independence, dignity, and national sovereignty.

After recalling the major orientations of our party in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields, and having reaffirmed their appropriateness for our Marxist-Leninist ideology and the national realities, the chairman of the Central Committee took stock of their implementation. From this stock-taking, the following was observed:

A) On the political plane: The logical implementation of our Constitution of 26 August 1977 for the first and second legislature which enabled our people to pass from revolutionary legitimacy to consitutional revolutionary legitimacy; the victorious holding of a constitutive congress and the Organization of the Revolutionary Youth of Benin, OJRB, and the Organization of the Revolutionary Women of Benin, OFRB; the continued strengthening of the activities of the National Federation of Workers Union of Benin, UNSTB, and the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, CDR; the renewal of the revolutionary councils of garrisons of our People's Armed Forces.

B) On the economic scene: The resolute struggle for the redress of the national economy through the active revival of the national production campaign, through the diligent implementation of the decisions of joint sections of the Central Committee and the National Executive Council of April 1982 on the restructuring of public and semi-public enterprises with a view to making them more dynamic; the information and sensibilization campaign of traders in the national and foreign private sectors so that they can contribute to building an independent national economy by investing more in the productive sectors of agriculture and industry; the responsible consultation with all partners for the development of the People's Republic of Benin.

C) On the socio-cultural plane: The improvement and strengthening of the sanitary infrastructure in our towns and villages; the fight for the safeguarding of the purchasing power of our people in the areas of food, housing, and public transportation; the pursuit of the implementation of the law of the new educational system; the spreading of the mass literacy campaign and the promotion of people's culture.

After a scientific appraisal of this stock-taking, encouraging for more than one reason in this climate of general economic crisis, the chairman of the Central Committee presented and justified the central theme of the ordinary national congress of the party, namely, quote: Let us resolutely fight for the edification of the PRPB into a strong and influential Marxist-Leninist party based on the strengthening of ideological unity and the true exercise of democracy within it in order to successfully complete the process of building an independent and prosperous national economy through socialism, unquote.

It is in close connection with this central theme of the second congress that the prospects and tasks inherent in it were drawn up with objectivity and realism by the chairman of the Central Committee. Thus for the next 5 years, all forces of the party will be fully mobilized in a disciplined, methodic, and rigorous manner.

A) On the political plane: To build the PRPB into a strong and influential Marxist-Leninist party by establishing its statutory bodies at all levels; to improve and strengthen the mass organizations and bring them to play their role as the contact between the party and the masses and as the embodiment of the people's power; to have the party newspaper *[ANDOYA]* published regularly in order to sustain the revolutionary education of the

people and the political and ideological training of cadres and militants of the party and its mass organizations.

B) On the economic plane: To henceforth place the party's activities on the correct solution of economic problems of the country; to draw up a national development plan which takes into consideration at the same time state sectors and national and foreign private sectors desiring to contribute to the accomplishment of the objectives of the economic and social programs of the party.

C) On the socio-cultural plane: To implement Point 7 of the 10-point minimum program of our party by progressively settling the issue of the 5 fundamental needs of the popular masses which are: food, housing, health, education, and clothing in close relation with the development of the national economy; to creatively fight for the propagation of the mass literacy campaign in our national languages and and the organization of cultural and artistic festivals at all levels in order to promote a democratic and popular national culture.

After unanimously adopting the Central Committee's activities and orientation report, the congress participants were divided into three working commissions: Commission No 1 in charge of political and cultural affairs; Commission No 2 in charge of structuring and organization of the party; and Commission No 3 in charge of economic and social affairs. Thus for 3 days congress participants worked nonstop in commissions in line with the party's orientations and in an atmosphere of militant comradeship in unity and revolutionary cohesion, strengthened by their concern to adhere to the principles of democratic centralism and Marxism. Thus the plenary session of the second ordinary national congress was but the victorious crowning of the righteousness of the working style and the leadership method of Marxism-leninism of our party. It was therefore in unity of revolutionary thought and in faith with the principles of Marxism-Leninism as well as in line with the general orientation of our party that the second ordinary national congress of our vanguard party, the PRPB, rightly described as the congress of truth, maturity, and revolutionary determination, ended its deliberations.

The congress elected its fourth Central Committee whose number is 45 members. The fourth Central Committee of the PRPB held its first ordinary session at the end of which it elected its Political Bureau members and the chairman of the Central Committee, our great comrade in arms, President Mathieu Kerekou. [Applause] This fourth Central Committee now has the heavy task of conducting in discipline and revolutionary enthusiasm, [words indistinct] the party's struggle and to build it into a [words indistinct] capable of effectively leading our people in the sacred battle of building an independent national economy capable of generating sufficient means to satisfy the five fundamental needs of the valiant and hardworking people of Benin as a whole.

The second ordinary national congress launches a militant appeal to the popular masses of our towns and villages to redouble their efforts at work in our factories, on our farms, and in our services in order to win the economic battle and thus guarantee perennial political stability acquired and defended thanks to the adherence of all our people to the ideals of the democratic and popular revolution.

Forward with the edification of the PRPB into a strong and influential party! Forward with the edification of an independent and prosperous national economy on the socialist path!

Immortal glory to the People's Republic of Benin!

Immortal glory to the PRPB!

Immortal glory to martyrs of the Beninese revolution!

Ready for production! Ready for the revolution! The struggle continues.

Issued in Cotonou on 24 November 1985, by the congress [Applause]

GHANA

SWAPO's Nujoma, Delegation Arrive for Visit

AB261117 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The president of the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, Mr Sam Nujoma, is in Accra to participate in the Namibia Week celebrations. Speaking on arrival at the Kotoka Airport, Mr Nujoma reaffirmed the organization's commitment to resist all forms of intrigues by the allies of the apartheid regime to reverse the struggle to free Namibia. He said he was happy to be back on the land of Osagyefo [honorary title] Dr Kwame Nkrumah, who spearheaded the liberation struggle for the total independence of the African Continent.

Mr Nujoma, who is leading a five-man delegation, noted that his participation in the solidarity week shows the practical expression of Ghana as being part and parcel of the struggle going on in Namibia. The SWAPO leader said the struggle against the racist regime is to put sense into the puppet regime. Mr Nujoma observed that it is about time the racist regime handed over to the people of Namibia to rule their own country. He regretted that Western countries, particularly Britain and America, which believe in so-called human rights, are still supporting the racist regime to commit atrocities in Namibia. Mr Nujoma said he is convinced that the protracted armed struggle would lead to the attainment of independence in Namibia and South Africa very soon.

Welcoming him on his arrival, a member of the Provisional National Defense Council, Captain Kojo Tsikata, said the government still maintains its pioneering role in the independence struggle.

Other members of the delegation are Mr (Nahath Auguda), secretary for education; Mr Mangola Ithete, representative to Nigeria; Mr John (Ahuneguela); and Mr Ernest (Haiphioku). They will be in the country for 3 days.

Asamoah, SWAPO Official Comment
AB261610 Accra Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] The secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, said today the Ghana has followed with sympathy the gallant struggle being waged by SWAPO against the illegal occupation of Namibia. At a flag-raising ceremony at the African Liberation Square in Accra, in connection with the Namibia Week, he said the case for the Namibian independence is as clear as daylight. The international community, which gave racist South Africa the mandate to administer Namibia, has withdrawn that mandate. Namibia's fate, therefore, should not lie in the hands of South Africa. In spite of this, Dr Asamoah said, the racist colonial regime has continued its illegal hold on Namibia. It has been able to sustain the defiance because of the overt and covert support of some Western powers. Dr Asamoah noted that the huge economic returns which these powers derive from their investments in the racist colony is more important to them than the freedom and the human dignity of the Namibian and the black South African.

He repeated Ghana's call for the imposition of total and comprehensive economic sanctions against South Africa. At the same time, Ghana believes in the intensification of the armed struggle and he called on all OAU members to pay up their contributions to the Liberation Fund.

A member of the Central Committee of SWAPO, Mr Kapuka (Wile) Yala, said SWAPO is deeply touched by the sprit of solidarity displayed by the people of Ghana for their cause. He noted that the cause of SWAPO is a just one and notwithstanding bombs and bullets, the people of Namibia will emerge victorious. He thanked the Nonalignment Movement and the Frontline States for their support and asked them not to relax till victory is won.

Three wreaths were laid in honor of the heroes of the ongoing social transformation in Ghana, the Namibian struggle, and victims of apartheid.

Nujoma Meets Officials
AB262256 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The president of the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, Mr Sam Nujoma, today called on the secretaries for foreign affairs and education. In his discussion with the SWAPO leader, the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, said Ghana has always been a leader in the campaign for total African liberation. He praised Mr Nujoma and his colleagues for the sacrifices they are making to free their country and said the liberation movements in southern Africa should now adopt strategies for the final onslaught against apartheid.

On his part, Mr Nujoma expressed his profound gratitude for the efforts Ghana is making towards the liberation struggle in southern Africa. He said the situation in Namibia has reached a critical stage as many people continue to sacrifice their lives for independence. Mr Nujoma said although the puppet regime in Namibia has set up units which destroy property and life in an attempt to destroy the activities of SWAPO in the territory, this will fail. America's attempt to use South Africa to reinstate colonialism in Africa will also come to nothing.

At the Ministry of Education, the secretary, Miss Joyce Aryee, said she is confident that SWAPO will soon deal the last blow that will eliminate apartheid. She noted that no amount of reasoning will convince the imperialists to change their policies in South Africa, hence the need for intensification of the armed struggle.

Mr Nujoma told Miss Aryee that events show that apartheid is about to collapse but since freedom will not be given to the people of Namibia on a silver platter, they must fight on.

Mr Nujoma and Miss Aryee discussed the possibility of placing Namibian students at higher institutions of learning in the country.

IVORY COAST

24 Nov Municipal Elections 'Orderly, Disciplined'
AB251252 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French
25 Nov 85 p 26

[Excerpts] Ivorians again went to the polls yesterday in order to elect 135 mayors for our towns. Everything took place in an orderly and disciplined manner, just as it was during the preceding elections.

With the municipal elections, Ivory Coast has come to the end of the 5-month electoral period; 5 months during which our country provided proof of its political maturity, thanks to the calm, order, and discipline demonstrated by the electorate.

Minister Comments
AB252218 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
0745 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Excerpts] The rule in any election is that there should be winners and losers. One should be able to face this fact. The minister of interior said this clearly in the statement he made on the occasion. He said that all Ivorians are brothers and should join hands and forget about those things that occurred during the election campaign and the elections.

Let us listen to the statement made by Leon Konan Koffi, our minister of interior:

[Begin recording] The best candidates were elected or reelected; those who were not so good were dropped by their constituents. What I appreciate most is that no one engaged in any forbidden practice which could have hindered the victory of some other candidates and that the communal political scene is changing for the better because the lists are composed of competent candidates from all sides.

Three thousand nine hundred municipal councilors and among them more than 2,000 cadres are from now on in charge of the future of our cities. Another reason for me to be satisfied lies in the fact that Ivorians are now aware of the fact that democracy means to be at the service of others and not to help themselves to public funds. I hope that the results of these elections, once announced, will not be an occasion for my fellow Ivorians to perpetrate acts which could threaten the stability in our country but on the contrary will be an occasion to manigify the good democracy and President Houphouet-Boigny's action on the Ivorian political scene. President Houphouet-Boigny, who has always been ahead of his time, has just given his country a local administrative structure capable of strengthening national unity, accelerating the development process, and enabling each cadre, each son of the country, and, in one word, each Ivorian to participate in the economic and social life of his native region by putting to good use the cultural peculiarities of his district.

The peaceful and brotherly atmosphere which prevailed during the elections gives me the assurance that our country has a good start. I appealed to all those who were involved in the elections and had their pride hurt by statements made by their opponents during the campaign, to forget about any offense they suffered, for our most respected head of state used to forget any offense committed by his opponents.

I also appeal to the winners to hold out their hands to the losers as our great party, the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast — African Democratic Rally, always did, in the furtherance of its policy of tolerance, dialogue, solidarity, and love. This is the motto of our party here in the Ivory Coast and in the world at large. [end recording]

University Students Protest Reduction in Grants

AB251425 Paris AFP in French 1357 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Abidjan, 25 Nov (AFP) — A group of students from the National University of Abidjan have stopped attending lectures since last Friday to protest the reduction in the number of scholarship grants and orientations, it was learned from reliable sources in the Ivorian economic capital on Monday.

A delegation of about 15 students affected by these measures has reportedly been received 3 times in the past few days by Dr Balla Keita, the Ivorian minister of national education and scientific research, who told the delegation of the "improvement" measures taken in the educational field in Ivory Coast, the same source also said.

For its part, the Ministry of National Education has said that a "small group" of 30 to 40 students have tried to question the measures decided by the Ivorian authorities and aimed at improving the national education sector, but they were not followed by the rest of the students.

The same source recalled that Ivory Coast has a 100 percent literacy rate but that this did not mean that 100 percent of Ivorians were university students and scholarship beneficiaries.

Finally, it was pointed out that this year, scholarships will be granted only to students coming from economically weak families. It is believed that the students opposing the reforms only want to see their status of "luxury" students being perpetuated without taking into account the merit of each student, the university's admission capacity, and the means of the Ivorian nation.

LIBERIA

ELWA Reports Trial Proceedings of Coup Participants

AB262110 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Three Army officers including Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Henry Dubar today testified as state witnesses in the trial of Army personnel who were implicated in the 12 November invasion. John Brown of our staff has the details:

The two other Army officers who also testified in the case were Army Deputy Chief of Staff General (Kpenkpa Kona) and Colonel Peter (Sulo). According to the chairman of the special military tribunal, Major General Alfred Gayflor, who briefed the press shortly after the court adjourned today, three state witnesses in separate testimonies told the tribunal that after the late Thomas Quiwonkpa arrived at the Barclay Training Center on November 12, they were arrested and disrobed in the presence of former Commanding General Zeze. Former Commanding General Morris T. Zeze, who is a defendant and was the first to take the stand yesterday, is being tried for contravention of PRC Decree 2A and a violation of Articles 81, 94, 104, and 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Gen Gayflor told the press that the three state witnesses said that Gen Zeze was never arrested by the late Quiwonkpa because Quiwonkpa had promised to promote Gen Zeze to the position of deputy chief of staff of the Army. Chairman Gayflor said Gen Zeze told the tribunal in his testimony today that following the announcement of the takeover on 12 November by the rebels, he took several precautionary actions to counteract the invasion. According to Chairman Gayflor, Gen Zeze said he had soldiers standing who he said were ready for action against the rebels.

Meanwhile, the tribunal chairman has said the state prosecutors are expected to cross-examine Gen Zeze tomorrow on his testimony to the tribunal. The trial continues tomorrow.

Finance, Commerce Ministers on Personnel Reductions

AB252325 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Finance Minister G. Alvin Jones today directed the deputy minister of finance for administration, Captain Peter Bemah, to submit to his office not later than tomorrow a list of 200 Finance Ministry employees to be retired and retrenched. Minister Jones said the move was in compliance with the recent economic measures announced by the head of state CIC [Commander in Chief] Samuel K. Doe to all government ministries and agencies

to retrench all unproductive employees and retire those at retirement age.

Addressing a press conference today, Minister Jones said the retirement and retrenchment exercise would affect 10 percent of all categories of employees at the Finance Ministry. He warned that the identification of persons to be retrenched or retired should not be based on prejudice or malice but rather on individual performances or the job in the past and at present. Minister Jones hinted that in its economic recovery program, government was determined to reduce its salary and wage bills by reducing its (?43,000) work force by 10 percent.

Meanwhile, Minister Jones has appealed to all government ministries and agencies to submit to the Finance Ministry the payrolls for the month of December by the end of the week. He said this would enable his ministry to effect the 25 percent deduction of salaries in keeping with the head of state's pronouncement.

In similar development, the services of more than 25 employees of the Ministry of Labor are to be terminated effective this week. The move is in response to the directive given last Friday by the head of state that government ministries and agencies retrench unproductive employees and retire those of retirement age. Disclosing this to reporters recently, the acting minister of labor, John Mason, said the termination exercise would affect those employees placed in higher positions including assistant ministers and other directors at the ministry. He pointed out that to ensure fair play he, Mason, would carry out the entire exercise. The entire exercise will be carried out in two phases at the Labor Ministry.

In another development, the minister of commerce, industry, and transportation, Mrs Mcleod Darpoh, says her ministry will carry out a similar exercise to weed out all unproductive employees. The *FOOTPRINTS TODAY* newspaper, quoting Mrs Darpoh, says she could not give the figure of the number of employees to be affected but added that there are people who are unproductive at the ministry. Minister Darpoh did not say, however, when the retrenchment would take place.

Information Minister Clarifies Currency Measures
AB252245 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] The minister of information has clarified that pensioners earning less than $200 per month are exempt from the 25 percent salary deduction to be effected beginning next month.

The minister also said no person will be permitted to take more than $1,000 in cash out of the country as announced by government last Friday. He said any money more than $1,000 cash to be taken out of the country will have to be done through the banking system. The minister said the clarification was necessary as the radio had implied last Friday that no money more than $1,000 cash will be taken out of the country without speaking about the use of the banking system which includes travellers checks, money orders, and letters of credit.

Finance Minister Warns Against Currency Smuggling
AB252310 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Finance Minister G. Alvin Jones has warned that any security personnel caught conniving with travelers to smuggle the national currency out of the country will be recommended for execution. Mr Jones gave the warning today during a press conference at the Finance Ministry. The press conference centered on plans to rigidly enforce economic measures announced by the head of state, CIC Samuel K. Doe, last Friday in an address to the nation.

The finance minister disclosed that individuals traveling out of the country should arrive at the port 2 hours before departure to allow ample time for security checks. He said the security check was intended to arrest those travelers who would violate the head of state's mandate against taking more than $1,000 physical cash out of the country. Minister Jones then warned any amount in excess of the $1,000 would be confiscated and deposited in government revenue. Minister Jones said it was in the best interest of travelers to arrive at the airport well in advance because their suitcases, bags, and person would be thoroughly searched before departure from the country. He then called on travelers wishing to take more than $1,000 out of the country to utilize the banking system and avoid embarassment at the ports of departure.

Information Minister Clarifies
AB262134 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The *DAILY MIRROR* today carried a frontpage article quoting the minister of finance as having warned that any security personnel conniving with travelers to smuggle national currency out of the country will be recommended for execution.

The minister of information, Major Carlton A. Karpeh, wishes the public to know that this statement is not a fact of policy of the Government of Liberia. While the head of state called on security men to be vigilant in their duties and for all [words indistinct] giving or accepting bribes, the minister said the head of state stated as a policy in his November 22 Executive Mansion speech that any person found criminally corrupt will be dealt with in keeping with law. The minister of information therefore points out that the statement of the minister of finance is merely his own declaration of fact he intends to recommend to government, and therefore no one should interpret the minister of finance's statement as government policy.

The minister of information also frowns on the practice of newspapers and television taking sensational statements, emotional remarks, and other similar words and making them into

unrevealing and disturbing headlines, thus infusing more fear into our people. The minister of information therefore calls on the media to stop this practice.

Minister Karpeh Clarifies Home Search Procedure

AB262148 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The Ministry of Information has announced that no soldier will be visiting homes after curfew hours in search of looted goods as announced by the General Services Agency, GSA. The decision came after the minister of information, Major Carlton A. Karpeh, held consultations today with the minister of national defense, the Army chief of staff, and the director general of the GSA. Minister Karpeh also told the LIBERIA NEWS AGENCY that if government finds reasons to search any home for stolen property believed to be hidden therein, it will do so through the due process of law or a police or an Army, an officer of the court will serve a search warrant during normal legal hours. [Sentence as heard]

However, the GSA director general has informed the minister of information of the prompt and cooperative reaction by some persons in the Pennesville and (Gardnersville) areas who have turned in some of the looted goods. In some cases these pieces of property were just anonymously left on the road side, the GSA director told the information minister. The GSA will, however, appreciate the continuation of those persons turning in looted property which were sent out of town by some unknown person or persons.

Meanwhile, the minister of defense and the Army chief of staff have assured the Liberian people, through the minister of information, that no requests have been received by them for soldiers nor will any soldiers be permitted to search anyone's home for looted goods at any time, day or night. They said that the Army is only concerned with the pursuit of rebels and the security of the state.

MALI

Mauritanian President Arrives for 24-Hour Visit

AB221653 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Text] Colonel Maayouia Sid Ahmed Ould Taya, the Mauritanian head of state, and his wife arrived this morning in Bamako for a 24-hour friendly working visit to Mali. He was welcomed on arrival at Bamako-Senou Airport by General Moussa Traore, the head of state and president of the republic surrounded by members of the Central Executive Bureau, the government, and the National Assembly Bureau; by the corporate bodies, heads of diplomatic and consular missions; and international organizations. At the VIP lounge of Bamako-Senou International Airport, the Mauritanian president defined the framework of his visit to Omar Sangare.

[Begin Taya recording] I am paying a friendly working visit to Mali, and as you know during my last visit to this country on 8 and 9 July, my brother and friend, President Moussa Traore and I reached an agreement that — considering the friendly and fraternal relations linking the Republic of Mali and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania — it would be beneficial if we two heads of state hold periodic consultations to discuss issues of mutual interest, and particularly to try to confront the economic crisis ravaging our subregion. Topics for discussion are many: for instance the OMVS [Senegal River Development Organization] which is of great concern to us and in which we have placed great hopes to improve the lives of our rural inhabitants and people; or this economic crisis, for which we are going to see what we can do jointly or together in order to reduce its effects; or the problems of the subregion, of Africa, or international issues of interest to our two countries.

It is within the framework of these periodic consultations between our two leaderships that I have come here, and I am very happy to pay this visit to Mali and meet my brother and friend, President Moussa Traore, and also to discuss with him problems of mutual interest to Mauritania and Mali. [end recording]

Algerian Envoy Arrives With Bendjedid Message

AB252238 Bamako Domestic Service in French
2015 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, the Algerian minister of state to the presidency and member of the FLN, arrived today in Bamako to deliver a message from President Chadli Bendjedid to his brother and friend President Moussa Traore.

He came on a special flight and was welcomed at Senou International Airport at 1600 by Djibril Diallo, the political secretary of the Central Executive Bureau and minister of state in charge of industrial development and tourism; Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; and the Algerian ambassador to Mali.

Mr Abdelghani will be granted an audience tomorrow by the head of state. It should be recalled that Mr Abdelghani was once the Algerian prime minister.

Meets With Traore

AB261848 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] This morning, General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People, received in audience His Excellency Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the FLN Political Bureau and minister counselor at the Presidency of the Republic of Algeria, who brought him a message from President Chadli Bendjedid. The excellent relations between Algeria and Mali, and issues of common interest affecting the subregion, Africa, and the rest of the world were the main topics discussed during the audience which was attended by Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; Mohamed Alhousseyni Toure, permanent secretary at the presidency; and Tidjani Guisse, diplomatic

counselor. After the audience, the Algerian special envoy spoke to the press about the purpose of his visit:

[Begin recording] I have brought a message from President Bendjedid to his brother and friend, President Moussa Traore. I have tried to accomplish my mission as well as I could and we discussed at length issues concerning Africa. I have been sent here by the Algerian president to meet with President Moussa Traore and brief him on Algeria's preoccupations concerning its relations with countries in its region and concerning its relations with Mali. The two heads of state are used to consulting each other and exchanging views on issues of common interest for years now, and it is within this framework that I have come to meet with President Moussa Traore for his views and advice. It is for me a duty and a pleasure to report them as faithfully as possible to my head of state. We discussed several topics and, as I have just told you, they concerned Africa, of course. Our heads of state's preoccupations are to foster harmonious relations and fight the true enemies of our continent, that is underdevelopment, drought, and malnutrition. All these problems are so serious, huge, and difficult to tackle that we must avoid wasting our time and energy in quarrelling over mere trifles, which only delay the development of our continent and thus the welfare of our peoples. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Babangida Receives Credentials of New Soviet Envoy

AB242226 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] President Babangida has called for sympathetic understanding of Nigeria's present economic situation from friendly countries. He made the call yesterday at Dodan Barracks while receiving the credentials of the new ambassador of the Soviet Union to Nigeria, Mr Yuriy Kuplyakov, and Canada's new high commissioner, Mr (Velmont Colet). The president enjoined the envoys to look for ways of expanding economic cooperation between their countries and Nigeria. President Babangida hoped that during their posting, the traditional cooperation between Nigeria and their countries, will be furthered strengthened.

Also yesterday, President Babangida received the letters of credence of the ambassadors of Lebanon, Mr (Amin Appay), and that of Argentina, Mr (Analdo Mesry).

Message Sent to USSR on Diplomatic Ties Anniversary

AB251208 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Nigeria has sent a message to the Soviet Union to commemorate the silver jubilee anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. In the message, the minister of external affairs, Professor Bolaji Akinyemi expressed satisfaction at the economic, technical, and cultural cooperation between Nigeria and the Soviet Union for the past 25 years. He expressed the hope that the two countries would continue to explore new areas of cooperation for the greater benefit of the peoples of Nigeria and the Soviet Union.

SWAPO President Ends Visit; Leaves for Ghana

AB252228 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Nigeria has again been commended for her continued moral and material support to the liberation movement in southern Africa. The leader of SWAPO, Mr Sam Nujoma, made the commendation in Lagos today while speaking to newsmen at Murtala Mohamed Airport, shortly before he left for Accra, Ghana. He said Nigeria's stand on issues affecting the liberation struggle in Namibia will continue to be a source of inspiration to the nationalist fighters.

The SWAPO leader explained that he was in Nigeria to brief the Federal Government on the progress so far made in the armed campaign to dislodge Botha and his white minority crew from Namibia. He said that though the organization welcomed meaningful dialogue in finding a solution to the Namibia issue, SWAPO had no alternative but to intensify the armed struggle because of South Africa's intransigence.

On the Commonwealth Contact Group on South Africa, Mr Sam Nujoma said it was a welcome development since it would draw the attention of the Pretoria regime to the magnitude of criticism expressed by the international community of the need to dismantle apartheid.

Asked to comment on the ideological leaning of his organization, Mr Nujoma said SWAPO was not committed to any ideology, saying that it was only a liberation movement dedicated to the achievement of independence for Namibia.

NEPA, Bulgarian Firm Sign Loan Agreement

AB262252 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The National Electric Power Authority [NEPA] is to expand its rural electrification projects with a loan of about 40 million naira from Bulgaria. The loan agreement was signed in Lagos today between NEPA and (Electro-Import) Foreign Trade Engineering Organization. The chairman of the board of directors of NEPA, Mr George Nwachepa, remarked that the agreement was another giant stride in Bulgarian-Nigerian friendship. Mr (Kiro Chochev), speaking on behalf of the Bulgarian Government, said the contract was a practical implementation of the agreement between Nigeria and Bulgaria in accordance with the intergovernmental credit pact. He gave the assuarnce that his organization would meet all the conditions and requirements agreed upon.

Special Delegation Leaves for Ghana, Togo, Benin
AB271028 Lagos International Service in English
0930 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] The president's special delegation, led by Nigeria's external affairs minister, Professor Bolaji Akinyemi, leaves Lagos today for Ghana, Togo, and Benin Republic. The trip is in connection with the planned summit of the heads of state of these countries and Nigeria to iron out differences between Togo and Ghana. The delegation returns to Lagos tomorrow.

SENEGAL

Defense Minister Fall Receives Algerian Envoy
AB251730 Dakar Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, the Algerian minister of state at the Presidency, arrived in Dakar yesterday evening with a message from the Algerian head of state, President Chadli Bendjedid, to His Excellency President Abdou Diouf, current OAU chairman. The head of state being absent, Minister of the Armed Forces Medoune Fall this morning received the Algerian leader's envoy who spoke to the press about the contents of the message he brought.

[Begin recording] I have been sent here by President Bendjedid to meet with His Excellency President Abdou Diouf, first, in his capacity as the current OAU chairman, and also in his capacity as president of Senegal, which is a friendly country and with which Algeria has particularly good and preferential relations. The two heads of state are used to consulting each other and exchanging views on African issues as well as on issues of common interest, and it is within this framework that I have been sent to Senegal. I have met with His Excellency Medoune Fall, the minister of defense, who kindly received me and to whom I delivered a message. Concerning the message, we think that only after President Abdou Diouf receives it should the contents become known. This is all that I can tell you. I apologize for being unable to give more details. Thank you. [end recording]

President Diouf Pays Official Visit to France

For French media reportage on the visit to France by President Diouf, see the France section of the 26 November West Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

SIERRA LEONE

French Trade Delegation Concludes 3-Day Visit
AB261113 Freetown Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Excerpt] A high-level French trade and commercial delegation has concluded a 3-day (?exploratory) visit to Sierra Leone. During the delegation's stay in Freetown, wide-range discussions were held with the ministers of mines, tourism and cultural affairs,agriculture and natural resources, works, and energy and power, as well as with leading business entrepreneurs, including the managing director of the Sierra Leone (?cement) factory, Mr (Yusuf), on possible joint ventures.

TOGO

'Large Groups' of Ghanaians Fleeing Clashes Arrive
AB260602 Lome Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] For some days now, large groups of Mobas from northeastern Ghana have been fleeing toward Togo seeking refuge near their Togolese brothers. The chiefs of the divisional areas in Togo, fed up with the intensity of the influx of the refugees, appealed to the regional prefect. According to explanations given by these refugees who have arrived in Togo, their flight from Ghana follows bloody clashes which broke out on 17 November between Moba and Konkomba communities in the Mamprusi region of Ghana.

It is worth recalling that Mamprusi is a Ghanaian region which shares a common border with the western side of the [name indistinct] side especially in the [names indistinct] divisions.

It is worth specifying that these clashes, which were caused by chieftancy disputes, according to the refugees left 17 Mobas and 11 Konkombas dead. The Mobas, who come from Ghana's Mamprusi area, have arrived in large numbers in the various divisional areas in Tone Prefecture. These divisional areas have a common border with the Ghanaian area. At [place-name indistinct], the number of the refugees is more than 3,000. At [place name indistinct], 2,000 of them were counted. At (Toukpegou), almost 3,000. These refugees, who (?have fled) the Ghanaian territory during the clashes, arrived helpless.

The Togolese authorities (?have disputed relief materials including foodstuff and drugs) to the areas. The relief operations are being coordinated by the Rally of the Togolese People regional commissioner, [name indistinct] Mensah. Some of the refugees were seriously wounded and were sent to the [name indistinct] hospital. Some women who gave birth in very difficult situations were also sent to the [name indistinct] hospital. [Passage indistinct]

President Eyadema Returns From Zaire
AB251518 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Excerpt] The president of the republic, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, returned to Lome this morning from Kinshasa where he, along with other African leaders, took part in festivities marking the 20th anniversary of the coming to power of Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko.

ANGOLA

Foreign Minister Congratulates Bulgarian Counterpart

MB261216 Luanda ANGOP in Spanish 0950 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Luanda, 26 Nov (ANGOP) — Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, Angolan minister of external relations, has sent a message of congratulations to Petur Mladenov, his Bulgarian counterpart, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

In his message, Afonso van Dunem stresses the ties of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation that have been strengthened by the agreements signed by Jose Eduardo dos Santos, Angolan president, and Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the Bulgarian State Council. In his message, the Angolan minister reiterates his confidence that relations between the People's Republics of Angola and Bulgaria will continue to be strengthened and that the two countries will continue to strive for peace, social progress, and friendship.

BOTSWANA

Foreign Minister Discusses Commonwealth Sanctions

MB261626 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1221 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Gaborone, Nov 26, SAPA — Sanctions against South Africa, as agreed by the Commonwealth summit, represented a compromise and possible measure that could prevent bloodshed because it was important to eradicate apartheid, not people, the Botswana minister of foreign affairs, Dr G. Chiepe, said in an interview with a Canadian journalist in Gaborone.

Dr Chiepe was satisfied with the terms of the Nassau accord, even though there were differences of opinion. Nevertheless a compromise was arrived at, she said. She charged that people could either live together in peace and harmony or perish together if an amicable resolution could not be obtained.

Botswana would suffer as a result of the sanctions, but "we are prepared to, because we abhor apartheid and evil in human practices," she said.

NAMIBIA

South African Parliamentary Delegation Visits

MB261010 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0830 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Eleven parliamentarians have arrived in South-West Africa on a 3-day orientation visit, during which they will be informed of the economic, political, and security situation in the territory. The group includes members of the National Assembly, the House of Representatives, and the House of Delegates, and is headed by Mr Leon Wessels, Krugersdorp member of parliament.

2,000 Refugees Granted Permanent Residence

MB260959 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Two thousand of the estimated 40,000 refugees in South-West Africa have been given permanent residence permits and identity documents in Ovambo in the past month.

A spokesman for the department of civilian affairs and manpower in South-West Africa, Mr Nicky Opperman, said in Windhoek today that a registration compaign would also be started in Kavango and Caprivi early next year. Most refugees are from Angola, but they also include people from Zambia and Botswana.

SOUTH AFRICA

President Botha Makes Official Visit to Transkei

MB261522 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1518 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Umtata, Nov 26, SAPA — The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, today paid tribute to the Transkeian state president, Paramount Chief Kaiser Matanzima, for his contribution to constitutional developments in southern Africa. Mr Botha was speaking at Umtata's Independence Stadium during his ceremonial visit to Transkei to formally bid farewell to President Matanzima, who is due to retire early next year. He was accompanied by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha.

"For me personally it is a privilege to have an opportunity here in Umtata on this occasion to pay tribute to you as a leader of your people and, indeed, as the father of the Republic of Transkei.

"You have led your people firstly, to self-government and then to independence and by doing so you pointed the way for other southern Africa nations, three of which have already followed your example.

"It took great courage to be the first to take this step, recognising, as you did, the challenges which lay ahead.

"You have consistently displayed the same courage in expressing your point of view even when it was in disagreement with the South African Government.

"As a man of goodwill you have consistently chosen to follow the path of negotiation and peaceful deliberation rather than confrontation. In this way you have greatly contributed to the solving of differences," Mr Botha said.

He also referred to the significant role President Matanzima had played in advancing security, prosperity and stability in the southern African region as well as his contribution to multilateral co-operation in the region.

Mr Botha praised Chief Matanzima for his clear and unequivocal stand against disinvestment and said even though the independence of Transkei was not recognised by the international com-

munity, the world could not wish away the Transkeian people's existence.

"Our two countries have many common interests and we are determined to accept our responsibilities to serve those interests. We are all children of Africa.

"As a child of Africa and as an Afrikaner I would like to thank you for reinstating Afrikaans in Transkei schools. This is a signal to the world that we and our language are indeed a part of Africa and that we all share a common destiny," Mr Botha said.

In his welcome speech President Matanzima said the problems that faced South Africa were also Transkei's problems and it was up to both countries to find mutual solutions to these vexing questions in the best interests of the two countries' peaceful societies.

"We are grateful to you and your government for all you have done to assist our development, even during the adverse times of world financial difficulties.

"We appreciate the problems of world opposition to us and we suggest that we do not cringe, but face them resolutely with the knowledge that the Almighty God will finally grant judgment in our favour for, we have no malice against anybody, but wish to do justice to all," he said.

After the exchanging of gifts all the dignitaries went to a formal luncheon. Mr Botha presented Chief Matanzima with a Siementhaler bull and three heifers and in turn was presented with a fine saddle horse fully saddled.

Landmines Planted by 'ANC Terrorists' Detonate

MB261332 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1444 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 26, SAPA — The black driver of a heavy vehicle sustained injuries to his legs when a landmine was detonated in the early hours of this morning on the Farm Weipe in the Soutpansberg military area, SA Defence Headquarters announced today.

Mr Gerrie de Villiers of the Farm Schroda was unharmed after his light truck detonated a second mine on the same farm, an SADF statement said.

In the meantime security forces have learnt from the black inhabitants that three unknown blacks, presumably ANC terrorists, crossed the Limpopo River from Zimbabwe last night and early this morning returned there. All three were observed in the area where the landmines exploded.

In addition, two landmines have been found in the same area and have been made harmless. Everything possible is being done to ensure that there are no more landmines in the area. Roads have been swept in the area and farmers are going about their normal activities, said the announcement.

Pik Botha Issues Warning

MB261834 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1834 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Pretoria, Now 26, SAPA — The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has called on the Zimbabwean Government to ensure that its territory is not used "for the planning and execution of deeds of violence" against Aouth Africa. This follows two landmine explosions early this morning on farms in the Soutpansberg military area in the northern Transvaal.

The driver of a heavy vehicle sustained leg injuries and a farmer escaped unhurt when their vehicles detonated the mines.

An SADF statement said security forces had learned from local inhabitants that three unknown people, "presumably ANC terrorists," had crossed the Limpopo River from Zimbabwe last night and had been seen in the area in which the mines exploded. The suspects had re-crossed the border early this morning, the SADF said.

In a statement issued in Pretoria tonight, Mr Botha said he had instructed the South African trade representative in Harare to "bring the facts" of the incident to the attention of the Zimbabwean Government.

"The Government of Zimbabwe has also been asked to take steps to ensure that Zimbabwean territory is not used for the planning and execution of deeds of violence against the Republic of South Africa," the brief statement concluded.

Mines Identified

MB262015 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2010 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Pretoria, Nov 26, SAPA — A black youth died in a confrontation between mobs and two land mines exploded near the country's northern border today, injuring the black driver of a heavy vehicle, authorities said.

Today's landmine explosions occurred in the Weipe area, about 60 km west of Messina and on the border with Zimbabwe.

The area is a declared military zone and is bounded by a wire and sisal fence running along the Limpopo River.

According to the officer commanding the Soutpansberg military area, Lt-Col Johan Botha, the mines used were Czechoslovakian-manufactured PT/MI/BA3 landmines equipped with anti-lifting devices. The mines were first used in the Rhodesian war.

Col Botha said the situation was "under control" and the inhabitants of the area were continuing with their everyday activities.

Security forces were doing everything possible to ensure that any further mines were found, and all roads had been swept by mine detector squads.

Troop Carrier Detonates Landmine

MB271420 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1420 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 27, SAPA — A Defence Force troop-carrier detonated a landmine 10 km from where two civilian vehicles were involved in two mine incidents yesterday, Defence Headquarters announced in Pretoria today.

The incident occurred on the Farm Nuwelus at about noon today when military vehicles were sweeping the roads for mines. The sweep action followed the two mine incidents in the same area yesterday.

Four members of the Defence Force, two of them black, were injured in the incident. Their conditions are satisfactory.

The possibility exists that the same group were responsible for all the incidents, the announcement said.

Pik Botha Issues Statement on Commonwealth Group

MB261805 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1700 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, reacted in Pretoria this afternoon to the list of names of proposed members of the Commonwealth group who are planning to visit South Africa. The list of names as well as a copy of the Commonwealth agreement on South Africa was handed to the South African Government by ambassadors of Commonwealth countries yesterday.

In his statement, Mr Botha says it is clear that the majority of Commonwealth member-states were badly or completely uninformed about the government's reform police and the present situation in South and southern Africa. Mr Botha says that South Africa is the backbone of economic progress and stability in southern Africa and all the leaders of countries on the subcontinent are consequently committed to reconciling their differences peacefully. Mr Botha said the government has nothing to hide. If the Commonwealth group is truly interested in ascertaining the true state of affairs in South and southern Africa, then the government will be prepared to make it possible for them. The government will not allow meddling in its internal affairs.

Conservatives Condemn Visit

MB270915 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0910 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 27, SAPA — The composition of the seven-man Commonwealth study group on South Africa read like a "who's who" of the republic's enemies, the Conservative Party said today in a statement in which it strongly rejected the government's opening the way for the delegation to visit the country.

"The announcement by Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha that the government is to allow the Commonwealth delegation into South Africa to investigate certain internal matters is shocking in the first degree and has serious implications for South aFrica," Mr Tom Langley, foreign affairs spokesman for the party, said in a statement in Pretoria.

"It is treason against the sovereign integrity of the republic, dishonourable and humiliating.

"The names of the non-British members of the delegation read like a who's who of South Africa's enemies — a vanquished Australian prime minister, a dethroned Nigerian dictator and a president of the World Council of Churches," Mr Langley said.

Mr Botha's excuse that they were uninformed was ridiculous.

"Their avowed pre-judgement makes it impossible to inform them of anything but the necessity of the total capitulation of the whites in South Africa. The Conservative Party rejects the National Party government's decision in the strongest terms," he said.

Slabbert Interviewed on Commonwealth Sanctions

MB261033 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Interview with Progressive Federal Party leader Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert in Johannesburg by Ruda Landman on the "Network" program; introduced by Jannie Botes — live]

[Text] [Botes] Dr van Zyl Slabbert has joined us following his arrival at Jan Smuts Airport this morning.

[Landman] Dr van Zyl Slabbert has just returned from an extensive tour abroad where he visited among other places Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the United States, and Britain. Doctor, welcome to "Network" tonight.

[Van Zyl Slabbert] Thank you.

[Landman] What were your dominant impressions in all these countries with regard to the climate of feeling against South Africa?

[Van Zyl Slabbert] Well, there is enormous interest, first, in South Africa and I think one impression I gained is that the general standard of information of the average person in all the countries that I visited was much higher than I encountered before, and I think it is especially so because of the media interest in South Africa. My second general impression is that there is a shift away from the question of apartheid as such and the rejection of apartheid to the question: Now what about the alternative? How are we going to bring about an alternative society here in South Africa, after apartheid has disappeared from the scene, as it were.

[Landman] Does it mean there is a greater understanding of the problems surrounding that new system?

[Van Zyl Slabbert] I think there is much understanding of the problems and dilemmas in considering an alternative political system, and I think it is important for us in South Africa to take

note of this distinction. There is no question, let me put it this way, that they feel that apartheid must disappear, but as soon as you ask them how they see the future in a post-apartheid situation, then there is much understanding as well as confusion about what the alternative should be.

[Landman] Have you encountered this soft approach in Australia and New Zealand?

[Van Zyl Slabbert] First, you must differentiate between the media, which was very aggressive — I experienced that in several interviews, especially television interviews — and the government and the opposition. The government and opposition were surprisingly constructive as far as I am concerned and showed much understanding, really, of the problems.

[Landman] Even the Australian Government?

[Van Zyl Slabbert] Even the Australian Government. I must say I left here with the feeling that I would probably experience a very aggressive interview with Prime Minister Hawke, and to my surprise it was not the case. He said that he understood the problems of shifting away from apartheid. He had understanding of what is involved when considering a new political system, and he even tried to emphasize the fact the Commonwealth's mission of important persons was an honest effort to promote dialogue and I told him that the feeling here when I left was that that was not the case.

[Landman] How do the Commonwealth leaders see this mission? What is their motivation? What do they want to achieve?

[Van Zyl Slabbert] Well, it must be seen in the context of the Commonwealth conference in which the countries took a very strong position on sanctions. The Commonwealth countries wanted to carry those sanctions out while Mrs Thatcher, especially, succeeded in changing the conference into a mission which should see to what extent dialogue and negotiation are possible in South Africa. I think we in South Africa have ignored that aspect of the mission because we saw it principally in the context of the sanctions and the stances that were adopted.

[Landman] That it was a sort of punitive measure?

[Van Zyl Slabbert] Yes, as a sort of punitive measure, while both Hawke, Lange and their opposition leaders — and I had the same experience in Canada and in Britain — strongly emphasized that it should be seen as a positive and constructive approach.

[Landman] Is there any understanding of South Africa's opposition to the people who are named as possible members of the mission?

[Van Zyl Slabbert] That I did not find. I mentioned it myself, I mentioned the fact that there is much opposition to Mr Fraser, and they said they could understand, but it should be seen in light of the fact that he is appointed as an opposition member from Australia and that he is also one who is accepted, to some extent, by other Commonwealth countries. Then I pointed out that we have a problem of communication in this matter, and that it would not help if they demand acceptance of their views, and that they would also have to consider the position of South Africa itself.

[Landman] What did you find out about the issue of sanctions?

[Van Zyl Slabbert] That was a rather difficult experience, I must say, because I took the position that I do not believe sanctions can make any positive contribution, and that these could only be counterproductive. But the impression I gained is that the whole sanctions debate has now developed its own momentum. It almost appears that if one is against sanctions, then one supports apartheid, and if one is in favor of sanctions, then one is opposed to apartheid. It became laughable. I get the impression that the whole question of sanctions has been politicized to such a degree in those countries that it will be difficult for politicians to move away from the position they have assumed.

[Landman] And businessmen, the people who actually ...

[Van Zyl Slabbert, interrupting] Well, among businessmen there is very little sympathy for the whole question of sanctions, but they emphasized that where they are concerned, the issue is not punitive measures or sanctions, the issue is economic stability, the possibility of being able to do business in South Africa. They were very emphatic that if confidence in the South African economy is not restored soon and the rand remains under pressure as at present, then they will simply say it is no longer worth their efforts, and they will simply write this country off and look elsewhere. I believe that this is more serious than the whole sanctions debate.

[Landman] You say there is some understanding of the situation. What will have to be done in South Africa in order to strengthen these positive elements?

[Van Zyl Slabbert] I think what they are looking for at the moment is, as they put it, a bold step [last three words in English]. Now, I asked about this, and what it boils down to is that all of them, almost without exception, say a new, positive initiative is needed from the government.

[Landman] What would you consider as being such a positive initiative?

[Van Zyl Slabbert] I think that one would have to make a clear declaration that apartheid is to be shelved. Just those simple words, that we are going to get rid of apartheid, and we will try to devise an alternative system. Then, I think, one would have to spell it out in terms of the restoration of freedom of choice, and the measures, the laws, which still hinder this freedom of choice, such as, for example, the whole network of legislation on influx control, the issue of group areas, population registration, and the law on separate amenities. I think that these are the kind of measures one will have to give very clear indications on.

[Landman] Thank you very much for joining us this evening. All the best to you.

[Van Zyl Slabbert] Thank you very much.

PFP Monitoring Group Member Subpoenaed in Cape

MB270939 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0900 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] An official of the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] has been subpoenaed to disclose information related to allegations of police brutality in the Western Cape. The party's regional director, Paul (Voorberg) is required to provide the sources of allegations of police brutality published in a newspaper advertisement last month.

The advertisement was published under the heading: For God's Sake Stop Terrorizing Our People. It mentioned several instances of police brutality. Mr (Voorberg) has to tell the court all he knows about the allegations and must also supply the names and addresses of every person referred to in the advertisement who alleged police malconduct.

Mr (Voorberg) is part of the PFP's unrest monitoring committee. He is to appear in court on Monday.

Naude Says Churches May Accept Use of Violence

MB270550 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Beyers Naude says South African churches are likely to accept the use of violence in the struggle against apartheid if more economic sanctions are not imposed. Speaking in London, the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches has said if sanctions are not forthcoming then in all probability churches and individuals will accept violence. Asked if this would mean taking up arms, he said it would be included and the whole theory of a just war under whiich the church accepted violence would have to be seriously considered.

The British Council of Churches at its assembly has called on Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to impose carefully targeted sanction against South Africa, including a ban on investment and an end to loans to Pretoria. Dr Naude says he does not think Mrs Thatcher will heed the council's call.

Police Deny Tutu Allegations on Recruiting Dean

MB261240 Umtata Radio in English 1200 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] South African police have refuted allegations that they tried to recruit the dean of Johannesburg's Anglican cathedral to spy for them. The allegations were made at the weekend by Johannesburg's Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu and Dean Mervyn Castle. Dean Castle said police offered to drop charges against him of performing an unnatural sex act if he would cooperate with them. Rev Castle said he refused and has been found guilty on the charge and fined 600 rands or 3 months in jail.

Police say the allegations are an obvious attempt to alleviate the embarrassment caused to the church. A police spokesman has also accused Rev Castle of not having the courage of his convictions to have made the allegations in court.

Rev Castle says he did not say anything in court because his lawyer decided it would be better if he did not testify.

BBC Interviews PAC Chairman on Negotiations

MB261653 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 26 Nov 85

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] With the South African ANC leader Nelson Mandela back behind bars after 3 weeks in hospital, hopes have faded that the government was considering his early release, but certainly that has been one of the issues raised at recent contacts in Zambia between the ANC and South African businessmen and white opposition politicians. Well, watching those meetings from the wings has been the other South African liberation movement, the Pan-Africanist Congress, PAC. The PAC's newly-elected chairman, Johnson Mlambo, has been in London and Julian Marshall asked him what he made of those contacts.

[Begin recording] [Mlambo] Well, we do not know exactly what is actually being discussed and if there are discussions that are meant to bring liberation, they would be well and good, but we know that the businessmen themselves are the very people who have up to now been dismissing left and right the black workers. They ought to be settling their problems with the workers internally first and foremost. So, now these are some of the issues, basic issues, that ought to be addressed, because we feel that those businessmen at this stage are saying exactly the same thing that Botha is standing for, because they say they don't want majority rule, and what is there to talk about?

[Marshall] Don't you feel that the ANC should be talking to such people?

[Mlambo] Well, I will not dictate to the ANC, but I feel that, first and foremost, the businessmen ought to address themselves to these basic issues which actually affect the living conditions of their own employees inside Azania.

[Marshall] What are, in fact, the PAC's preconditions for any kind of dialogue with the government in South Africa?

[Mlambo] The Pan-Africanist Congress' approach toward the issue of dialogue is that it is not going to initiate any dialogue at this stage because it will entertain the idea of dialogue when it feels that our people are in a relatively stronger position in relation to the racist regime. So far, the racist regime has an almost complete monopoly of power, so that any negotiations that will take place would actually buttress the present oppressed structure. We don't see negotiations bringing out any positive result at this particular juncture.

[Marshall] Do you have any preconditions for dialogue — I mean, the ANC, for instance, are asking for the release of Nelson Mandela, the dismantling of apartheid, before they would even consider sitting down and talking to Botha?

[Mlambo] Well, we have made our demand very, very clear. In 1960, for instance, we made a demand for majority rule, transfer

of power to the majority our our people — one person, one vote, you see. So that we feel that any worthwhile negotiations must be negotiations to transfer power to the majority away from the minority. That is what we would be prepared to talk about. We do, of course, as we have always, demanded the release of Comrade Zephania Mthuping, a veteral leader of the PAC, and Nelson Mandela and all other political prisoners. We have made that position clear in the OAU, in the United Nations, in the Nonaligned Movement, and everywhere where we speak. But we do not see this as a condition, really, to talk to the government. We don't feel that any talk to the government at this particular stage will be to the benefit of the revolution. [end recording]

Gazankulu Leader Urges 'Federal' Government

MB270813 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] The chief minister of the South African national state of Gazankulu, Professor Hudson Ntsanwisi, says a new strategy leading to the establishment of a federal form of government is long overdue in South Africa. He says that a federal form of government is needed to accommodate the diversity of political opinion existing in South Africa, and that it is the only solution to prevent one group from dominating another.

Speaking on his return from West Germany, Prof Ntsanwisi said that punitive action in South Africa would mainly benefit the Soviet Union's efforts to extend its ideology in the subcontinent. It would also bring about massive unemployement, he said.

Hunger Strike at Diepkloof Prison Reported

MB271004 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0941 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 27, SAPA — A three-day hunger strike has been launched in Johannesburg's Diepkloof prison by detainees held in terms of the emergency regulations, a Johannesburg daily reported today.

The protest is believed to involve a large number of detainees, perhaps as many as 200. The participants are understood to be demanding the immediate release of detainees, an end to the state of emergency and the withdrawal of troops and police from the townships. The strike is believed to have started this morning and detainees will not eat again until Saturday morning.

A spokesman for the Department of Prison Services commented today: "Some detainees being held in the Johannesburg prison in terms of the emergency provisions did not eat breakfast this morning. However, they have access to the prison tuck shop."

According to a group of MP's who visited Diepkloof Prison less than a fortnight ago, there were 224 emergency detainees held there.

Johannesburg's emergency detainees have launched previous hunger strikes, the first occurring soon after the introduction of the emergency on July 21. These have been in support of demands for improvements in conditions at Protea police station and Diepkloof prison rather than directed at broader issues. The quality and quantity of food was a major grievance in these earlier actions.

CUSA, Azactu Not To Join Union Federation

MB261849 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1700 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Two of the country's largest trade union groupings will not join the umbrella federation of trade unions which is to be established this weekend in Durban. This statement was issued today in Johannesbrug at a news conference of the Council of Unions of South Africa [CUSA] and the Azanian Confederation of Trade Union [Azactu]. The two trade union groupings have a combined membership of about 400,000. CUSA and Azactu are withdrawing now after 4 years of negotiations on the establishment of an umbrella trade union federation.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] According to the statement, CUSA and Azactu are in favor of a system in which worker control is carried out by a system of equal rights for all races as well as a democratic system in which workers choose leaders from their own ranks. The two unions are in favor of a new federation which would look after the interests of the majority and not only the aspirations of a white minority. By implication, CUSA and Azactu say that the new federation does not satisfy their demands but that discussions and negotions with the new super federation, FOSATU [Federation of South African Trade Unions] will continue.

[Azactu Coordinator Pandelane Ndfolovhodwe, in English] We are not talking about joining a [words indistinct]. We are talking about discussions. The doors are open for discussions between ourself and the new federation. [end recording]

Unions Urge National Strike if Emergency Not Lifted

MB261640 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1600 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Two South African union groupings have called for support for a national strike unless the state of emergency is lifted by the end of the year. The Council of Unions of South Africa and the Azanian Congress of Trade Unions have issued a call for support from all community and trade union organizations. Between them the two [words inistinct] unions claim a membership of more than 160,000.

Mining Company To Begin Recruiting Urban Blacks

MB261003 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] A large South African mining company says it is to recruit urban blacks to work on its gold mines, an industry in which about 97 percent of the black labor force are migrant workers. Rand Mines says in a statement issued in Johannesburg that South African workers could live with their families, unlike migrant workers who are housed in singles hostels on the mines.

The head of the group's gold and uranium division, Mr Clive Knobbs, says the first mine to take the steps will be the East Rand Proprietary Mine near Boksburg, east of Johannesburg. The mine hopes to employ staff from townships nearby, within easy commuting distance of the mine. Those who sign on will be able to continue living with their families at home, while working on the mine.

Mr Knobbs says the mining company was also investigating a home ownership scheme to help those members of staff who qualify to build their own homes in the townships near the mine.

About 450,000 blacks work on South African gold mines, most of them from the self-governing black states and neighboring countries. Rand Mines said it would recruit blacks to meet normal turnover demand, but an additional 7,000 would be needed when a new shaft was opened.

President Botha has raised the possibility that up to 1.5 million migrant black workers may be repatriated, if sanctions against South Africa begin to bite. But a spokesman for the Chamber of Mines said the urban black plan was not connected to this.

Meeting of Athlone People's Committee Banned
MB261113 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1021 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 26, SAPA — Brigadier C.A. Swart, divisional commissioner of police for the Western Cape, has banned a meeting of the Athlone People's Action Committee that was scheduled for tomorrow. Brigadier Swart banned the meeting using powers in terms of emergency regulations.

According to the banning order, the rally was to have the theme "Come voice your anger."

The meeting, or any other gathering with a similar theme, is prohibited until midnight on December 8 in the districts of the Cape, Wynberg, Simonstown, Goodwood, Bellville and Kuilsriver. Gatherings may not be advertised, advocated or promoted by the committee or any other association of persons.

Law Societies Call for Police Restraint
MB261120 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1057 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 26, SAPA — While the difficulty facing police in maintaining law and order in unrest situations was recognised, the need for restraint was emphasised by representatives of the legal professions, the Association of Law Societies and the Cape Bar Council said in a statement today.

The two legal bodies communicated their concern which was accepted yesterday at a meeting with the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange.

A deputation, that included the president of the association, Mr G.C. Cox, met the minister and the commissioner of police to discuss the state of unrest in the country.

The minister "affirmed that he would neither condone nor permit any wrongful act by any member of the police," the statement said.

Mr le Grange said steps were being taken to bring people arrested during the disturbances before the courts as quickly as possible. Additional courts were being provided to ensure that the large number of prosecutions arising out of the unrest were brought to trial without undue delay.

The statement said the minister also gave an assurance that all cases involving death in unrest would be dealt with in the "normal manner prescribed by law" and that in those cases in which prosecutions are not instituted inquests would be held in the "normal course."

The Association of Law Societies had expressed in October its concern over the killing of children in Athlone and had arranged a meeting with the minister.

The Cape Bar Council also conveyed its concern over the extent to which recent events in the Western Cape had led to polarisation between the police and the communities concerned. The minister said that steps were being taken to ameliorate this situation.

Medical Groups Reject Doctors Panel for Detainees
MB261954 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1931 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 26, SAPA — The proposed panel of doctors to oversee the health of detainees was an attempt to improve the image of the Medical Association of South Africa (MASA) after the Biko affair, three medical bodies said today. In a statement, they said they believed that "the physical and psychological torture of detainees will not end unless the entire detention system is abolished."

And since only government-approved doctors would be appointed to the panel who will consult detainees, it would not be in the interests of the detainees. They rejected the proposed panel.

The three bodies — the National Medical and Dental Association (NAMDA), the Concerned Doctors Action Committee (CODAC), a recently formed body of Cape town doctors, and the Health Workers Association (HWA) — said:

"The proposed panel of MASA doctors, all of whom must be approved by the government, is no more than an attempt to clean up MASA's image in the wake of the Biko affair. Since the government is to exercise the selection for doctors for the panels, and only MASA members are eligible, it is clear that the panel cannot be relied on to act in the interests of detainees.

"Many doctors who have been caring for detainees and their relatives are not members of MASA and in fact resigned from MASA as a result of the Biko affair.

"Until such time as detention is scrapped we demand that detainees should be given free and unlimited access to a doctor

of their own choice. To be able to choose from a limited panel of government-approved MASA doctors is merely an attempt by the government to create an illusion of a free choice. Consequently we reject the proposed panel and call for the abolition of the system of detention," the three bodies said.

ECC Protests Soldiers' Presence at Hospital

MB270845 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0837 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 27, SAPA — The End Conscription Campaign today expressed grave concern at the presence of the defence force in the wards of Baragwanath hospital.

"Soldiers conscripted without choice are used to play a healing role at Bara, whilst they are concurrently used to suppress the people of Mamelodi and to enforce apartheid education in Duduza," a spokesman said in a statement.

The soldiers were "undermining the affairs of workers acting in protection of their legitimate interests," and the "psychological presence" of the uniformed soldiers was another cause for concern because "victims of the police and SADF are often unable to go to the hospitals for fear of arrest," the spokesman added.

Members of the SADF have been working in Bara wards for about two weeks since nearly 1800 hospital workers and student nurses were dismissed for striking. Though they were reinstated earlier this week, the hospital authorities said yesterday that troops would "remain until the hospital could function fully on its own."

UDF Supports Teachers Refusing To Give Exams

MB270644 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2159 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 26, SAPA — Teachers refusing to administer examinations were exercising their duty as responsible educators and deserved unconditional support, the United Democratic Front (UDF) said tonight. A statement by UDF organiser Mr Naseegh Jaffer saluted the teachers stand.

"Their stand indicates their concern for the type of education that our students are receiving."

The UDF's support comes after the Western Cape Teachers Union (WCTU) decided yesterday that its 2,000 members should refuse to administer "farcical" exams at schools.

The UDF said: "With detentions, bannings, harassment and troops on school premises as the order of the day, there hardly exists an examination atmosphere and it is obvious the current exams hold no education value.

"Teachers who refuse to administer such exams are exercising their duty as responsible educators and people in our community will appreciate their action."

Police Report Unrest Situation, Arrests, Arson

26 Nov Evening Report

MB261732 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1729 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Pretoria, Nov 26, SAPA — Following is unrest situation report to 7 pm today. Issued by the public relations division of the SAP in Pretoria:

Incidents of arson, terror bombing and stoning have taken place in the following areas since this morning:

In the black residential area near Allanridge in the northern Orange Free State early this morning a mob of arsonists set a bus alight in the area, causing extensive damage. They were dispersed by the police using birdshot and tear smoke. No arrests and no injuries reported.

A black man was seriously injured at Mohlakeng near Randfontein on the West Rand when he was caught by a mob of people. The mob tied him up and doused him with petrol and then set him alight. He was taken to hospital in critical condition.

In Chesterville Port Natal during this afternoon, a fight broke out between two groups of blacks. During the fight, one black youth died, another was seriously injured and two houses were set alight. Both houses were extensively damaged. There was no police involvement and no arrests reported.

In Richmond, South Western Districts, a fight broke out between Coloureds and blacks who stoned each other. They were dispersed by police using tear smoke. No arrests and no injuries reported.

27 Nov Morning Report

MB270634 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0625 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Pretoria, Nov 27, SAPA — Following is the overnight unrest report issued to SAPA by the police public relations division in Pretoria.

The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

At Huhudi, near Vryburg, a black girl and a black man were seriously injured when petrol was poured over them and set alight. In the same area, the home of a black man, reported to be an UDF [United Democratic Front] member, was damaged by arsonists.

A shop, belonging to a councillor, was petrol-bombed. A police guard fired at the arsonist, a black man, fatally wounding him.

At Kagiso, near Krugersdorp, three black women sustained slight burn wounds when their home was petrol-bombed and extensively damaged.

In the black residential area near Aliwal North, a number of SAP vehicles were stoned and barricades erected in roads. Two police-

men were slightly injured during these incidents. At KwaZakele, near Port Elizabeth, a policeman guarding a private home was badly burnt when petrol bombs were thrown at the house. He managed to disperse his attackers with shotgun fire, preventing serious damage to the house.

9 Arrested in Searches

MB262033 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2032 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 26, SAPA — Several hundred troops and policemen today surrounded and swept through a large section of Guguletu, searching houses and stopping cars in the biggest security operation in the peninsula in three months.

Police arrested nine men and two women for possession of dagga [marijuana] and Mandrax tablets and for dealing in dagga. Ammunition for a 38 calibre weapon was also seized.

A military and a police helicopter hovered above the area as troops surrounded the township at 2 pm, as security forces carried out house to house searches.

Troops lined several streets at five and 10m intervals and a vehicle with a loudhailer drove through the township telling people to remain calm while thousands of pamphlets exhorting the residents to stay in their houses were distributed by members of the security forces.

The pamphlets also said the security forces had come to "remove the causes of their fear" and that they were only there to "fetch those who disturb your peace."

Minutes before going into the area, escorted by the army, military reporters were briefed on the reason for the sweep.

It was said that while unrest flared in certain areas in the Peninsula, it appeared that Guguletu had "an unhappy record".

"The police are going in to look for things such as weapons, explosives, grenades and any other articles which may have a criminal use. They will also be looking for guys on the wanted list, both for unrest and ordinary crime," said a commander, who did not wish to be named.

A police liaison officer for the Western Cape, Lt Attie Laubscher, said the "high density" operation was being held to "restore law and order" after dozens of incidents of stoning and petrol-bombing of private and commercial vehicles in the area. Residents reported that soldiers and policemen entered houses, searching cupboards and containers, and at one home, even a kitchen fridge.

Policeman Injured

MB262037 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2036 GMT 26 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 26, SAPA — A South African railway policeman was seriously wounded when a four-year-old boy accidently triggered the policeman's pump-action shotgun during a security force sweep through Guguletu today. Sgt C. Retief of Cape Town was part of a security force contingent carrying out a house search at about 3 pm. The policeman was standing with his shotgun at his side when the young boy became fascinated by it.

Exactly what followed was unclear, but apparently the boy touched the weapon and a shot was fired. Policemen ran to his assistance and tried to stem the flow of blood, pumping from an artery in the wound, which was the size of a R1 coin.

A military doctor arrived on the scene within 10 minutes and set to work to clamp the artery and stabilise the sergeant's condition so that he could be moved. A police command and control helicopter evacuated him from the scene as the child sat quietly in the lounge of a house, peering out of the door.

Sgt Retief was taken to 2 military Hospital where he was operated on. His condition tonight was described as "satisfactory."

Station Commentary Discusses U.S. Aid to UNITA

MB270544 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Station commentary: "American Aid for UNITA"]

[Text] Amid moves in the American Congress to provide aid for the Angolan resistance movement, UNITA, the Reagan administration itself has given the firmest indication yet that active support for Dr Jonas Savimbi is now a distinct possibility. At a news conference on the subject of overt or covert aid, President Reagan said: We all believe a covert operation would be more useful to us and have more chance of success right now than the overt proposal made in Congress. Breaking faith with freedom fighters would signify that aggression carries no risk. And this we will not allow.

This is an indication of a significant change of course in American efforts to get the Cubans out of Angola. In the past the State Department, in particular, feared that aid for UNITA would destroy any chance of cooperation from the MPLA government in getting the Cubans out and, in so doing, making possible an internationally acceptable independence for South-West Africa.

It seems, however, that even secretary of State George Shultz now accepts that diplomacy alone will not arrest Soviet aggression or get the Cubans out of Angola. In a radio interview he has for the first time expressed his unequivocal support for UNITA, saying: The United States will support people who fight for freedom, and we will try to figure out how to support them in a way that will be effective. This new attitude started in September when the Clark Amendment — a congressional ban on aid to any party in Angola — was lifted. Measures now before Congress make provision for 145-million rands worth of aid for UNITA, divided equally between military assistance, and humanitarian aid such as food and clothes.

However, as it would seem from the latest statements from President Reagan and Mr Shultz, there is a strong feeling that this is not sufficient. There is now in fact talk of covert military aid to the tune of 750-million rand, particularly for sophisticated weaponry such as anti-aircraft missiles. This could be funded through the Central Intelligence Agency, and would not have to be approved by Congress. The American change of attitude is in response to the Soviet Union's build-up of weapons and interference of its surrogate in Angola. According to American figures there are now 35,000 Cubans in the country (more than twice as many at independence 10 years ago) while the Soviets have in the past 2 years poured 5.4 billion rands-worth of weapons into the country.

This forced President Reagan to raise the matter of superpower involvement in regional conflicts with the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, at their Geneva summit meeting. His proposal was that the two superpowers act together to underwrite a negotiated settlement between the warring parties in Angola, leading to the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the country. It met with little success in Geneva, and President Reagan said on his return: As for Soviet expansionism in a number of regions in the world — we will continue to support the heroic efforts of those who fight for freedom.

The new American commitment to aid for the victims of communist aggression is heartening news for the whole southern African region, not the least for South Africa, which in the past few years has often felt that it stands entirely alone against this threat.

Press Reportage, Commentary on Emergency

MB270654 [Editorial Report] South African English- and Afrikaans-language newspapers continue to report and comment on the state of emergency and related topics:

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 26 November reports that the Pretoria Consumer Committee has issued pamphlets urging blacks "to boycott white shops in protest against the continued presence of the army and police in Mamelodi and Soshanguve." The boycott is planned from 1 December to 2 January. Residents in the townships are also requested not to buy from shops owned by police and councillors, the article says. The following reasons for the boycott were listed in the pamphlets: "More than 40 people have been killed in Pretoria by the police; many more people have been injured by the police; many workers have lost their jobs; and PUTCO [Public Transportation Company] has increased fares."

Alinah Dube reports in the same edition that "Four people, including a young woman who was allegedly set alight, died during violence after a music festival in Ga-Rankuwa at the weekend." Mobs of youths stoned vehicles and set them alight after the festival, the article says. "The youths appeared to have been angered by music lovers who defied a call by local youth organisations to boycott the festival in solidarity with 500 members of the South African Allied Workers' Union (SAAWU) who were recently fired by Metal Box in Rosslyn." The article adds, "Colonel David George, the Press liaison officer for the Bophuthatswana police, confirmed the weekend violence. 'While the stonings were continuing, police were at some stage forced to open fire and as a result injured one person,' he said."

Another article in the same edition says that members of the SADF "fired a tearsmoke canister into a crowd of guests, mostly children, in the yard of a Dobsonville home at the weekend." One man at the house said the soldiers had asked youths at the party for drinks and then fired the teargas when they were refused. "Colonel Basil Ginsberg, Senior Citizen Force Manpower Liaison Officer on the Witwatersrand, said yesterday hooliganism in the SADF would not be tolerated. He said he would investigate the matter."

Another article in the same edition reports that "only 16 people had lodged complaints against the army since the complaint offices were set up about three months ago." Colonel Ginsberg said "the figure probably did not reflect the true picture of the situation and cited intimidation, among others, as the reason why people did not want to come forward to lodge complaints against the soldiers," the newspaper says.

Commenting on the budget woes of Bophuthatswana in its editorial in the same edition, the *SOWETAN* notes: "The expensive political policy of turning the country into enclaves of wasteful homelands is the cause of many of our problems." President Botha should be prepared to "scuttle the whole business of homelands," because "the heads of these governments are simply incapable of sustaining such countries for long. While we are aware that they are totally beholden to South Africa, the myth that they are independent and self-ruling countries should be scrapped."

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 26 November carries a story by Brian Stuart and Tony Stirling which says: "The office of the State President has stated emphatically that the recurrent rumours about a possible release of imprisoned ANC leader Nelson Mandela are 'totally unfounded'." *THE CITIZEN* approached the State President's Office after a report in the London *OBSERVER* that negotiations were underway on Mandela's release, the article says, and "the continued speculation about 'deals' involving the release of Mandela was dismissed in a single word: 'Junk!'." Intelligence sources suggested the reports "may have arisen from foreign sources, probably American, who appear to have been playing the role of a broker in trying to bring the South Africa Government and the ANC together," the article says. One source told the reporters he suspected the ANC has been fanning these rumors, possibly through its broker, in order to use the South African refusal to release Mandela as an excuse to justify the use of violence. "It would certainly suit certain elements in the ANC if that were to happen, and it suits these elements in the organisation for Mandela to remain in prison," the article quotes the source. If Mandela were released and became a "spent force" in the ANC hierarchy, the source said, "it would not be to the advantage of the militants and those who favour a violent solution."

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 26 November carries a report by Jo-Anne Collinge which says, "Transkei authorities have detained or arrested at least 1,840 people in the last six

months, according to a publication entitled 'Detention without Trial in the Transkei — Bulletin No, 2.' The document, the authors of which are not known, says many of these detentions from May to October took place during student protest and in the aftermath of the murder of health worker Mr Bathandwa Ndondo, allegedly killed by Transkei police." The report says that due to the recent media emphasis on unrest and the state of emergency in South Africa, "the extent of repression in the homelands and in the Transkei in particular has largely gone unnoticed," Collinge reports.

In an editorial in the same edition, *THE STAR* notes: "The more one learns about last Thursday's events in Mamelodi, Pretoria, the more compelling the case becomes for a full-scale judicial inquiry." There are alarming discrepancies between the accounts of the police and those of independent witnesses, it says. "About the only point where the two versions coincide is that there was a large protest march on the township offices." The whole affair brings unhappy echoes of the earlier shootings at Langa, it says, and an inquiry would be in the interests of everyone.

In a second editorial, *THE STAR* expresses surprise at the vehemence of the government's denial of reports that it sent signals to the ANC on the release of Nelson Mandela. "Sooner or later Mr Mandela will have to be released and the ANC made party to negotiations. The more vigorously the Government pretends to deny this for quick political advantage, the less it will seem to act from strength when the moment comes," it says.

Gary van Staden reports in the same edition on remarks made by Tony Gilson, president of the Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce, to a meeting of the SA Institute of Race Relations in Braamfontein. Gilson said the "yes" vote in the 1983 referendum "will probably go down in history as one of South Africa's greatest mistakes because it sent a signal to the black community that whites did not want to share political power." Commenting on the suspension of the consumer boycott in Port Elizabeth for two weeks, Gilson said the release of local community leaders from detention and the withdrawal of the SADF from Port Elizabeth were major contributing factors. "I do not want to say that they were the only factors, and obviously the Government would have taken local conditions into account before deciding on a troop withdrawal, but they certainly played a major role," Gilson said. He added that there had been a significant drop in incidents of violence in Port Elizabeth following the release of the detained leaders. He also said: "I am not sure whether we can negotiate an end to the boycott, that is, turn the suspension into a permanent feature, but I am convinced that we can give it a try."

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 25 November says in an editorial that "the Geneva Summit has not brought about a disarmament treaty or a new formula for the settlement of regional conflict as expected by idealists." It has created many expectations, especially in the West, that could be too optimistic. President Reagan summed up the summit by saying, "We understand each other better." Mr Gorbachev's summary should be read in conjunction with Mr Reagan's. He said, "With regard to space and nuclear weapons, nothing tangible has been reached."

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 26 November says in an editorial that "a lack of trustworthy news leads inevitably to rumors and rumors lead to a lack of confidence in the government." This is the lesson to be learned from the tragic incidents at Mamelodi last week. Although Mamelodi is not a proclaimed unrest area, an unofficial news blockade was imposed when unrest broke out last week. As a result the public were dependent to a large extent on hearsay and wild rumors that the police had opened fire on demonstrators without provocation. "The police version, issued days after the incident, tells another story of thousands of demonstrators who brutally attacked the police with stones and petrol bombs." The tragic fact is that the lack of impartial news coverage has created suspicion against the police. Concluding, it says: "The suspicion can only be dispelled by a thorough investigation into the circumstances which led to so many deaths and the assurance that the relevant information will be made available."

ZIMBABWE

'Dissidents' Murder 2 in Matebeleland North

MB270626 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Dissidents murdered the headmaster of Tegwane high school, Comrade Luke Khumalo, and his British-born wife, Jean, at the school last Monday night. The assistant police commissioner for Matabeleland North, Comrade Joseph Shonde, confirmed the murders. A spokesman for the Methodist Church, under which Tegwane falls, said a third person, an Irish member of the teaching staff at the institution, is in a Bulawayo hospital suffering from gunshot wounds. It is believed the killers cut wires to enter the complex in order to carry out their nefarious act.

In another event, security forces shot and killed a bandit in a contact last Sunday afternoon in the Tsholotsho communal lands. Another man was arrested during the incident. Followup operations are in progress.